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OUR PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM.

It seems, according to our illustrious namesake, that Lord Palmerston does not look forward to the coming session with anything like unalloyed satisfaction. He is himself, in point of abilities, about the first man there, but he is old, the work is severe, and—worst of all—there is such an immense body of *Parliamentary talent* arrayed against him! Here is the point. What is *Parliamentary talent*? We know what statesmanship is—by tradition, at all events; but what power is this, which all men of action stand in awe of—which interrupts work at its own good pleasure, and the possession of which entitles an individual to try his hand at the government of mankind? This is a question which it would be as well to turn over a little, for it is a great deal more vitally connected than people fancy with the prospects of the country.

If there is anything we shall particularly want next session, it is a little governing talent, which (as we shall see presently) is quite a different faculty. We shall want what the ancients called the “kingly art”—the art of able administration—which is rather, we fear, gone by. The position will be very serious, for of Russia's yielding before Parliament meets there is but a poor chance. If the war is to be advanced, new and great measures must be taken. The fleet to the Baltic will have to go accompanied with gun and mortar boats, and floating iron batteries. The Scandinavian alliance may probably result in an army in Courland, which will force the German powers to declare themselves, and will raise the Polish question, un-

avoidably. Meanwhile, the Crimean business will be going forward, and home difficulties will not be wanting. In short, unless we have a strong Government, we shall be certainly disgraced, and possibly endangered. So that it is worth while considering what circumstances are likely to interfere with our enjoying this advantage. Of course, we are assuming that the country wants the war concluded in an honourable manner; as, otherwise, it does not perhaps much matter, and Parliament may go on debating to no purpose in the regular way.

It is feared, then, that however strong in the country, Government will be weak in “*Parliamentary talent*.” The best talkers will be out of it; and as a talker is nothing unless he talks, why, we shall have them in full chorus. “*Debates*” will be always going on—questions, objections—every variety of orthodox Parliamentary noise will abound. There will be everything but *suggestions*; for these are not parts of “*Parliamentary talent*,” which is critical and declamatory, but which somehow induces its possessor to cut up everybody else's proposal, while he keeps his own back. In point of amusement, we shall have nothing to complain of; for though our “*Parliamentary talent*” is not now up to the Fox and Sheridan mark, it is very creditable, and—as “*Punch*” is dull, and Thackeray in America—will contribute no little to keeping the British reader from being bored.

But do we assume, then, that this “*Parliamentary talent*” is something separate from a useful and fruitful genius for government? Yes, we do; that is precisely our belief. And as we think the Bri-

tish elector much deluded in the matter, we are anxious to set it before him in an intelligible way.

Odd as it may seem, debating is by no means the first function of a Parliament. The first function of a Parliament is to give counsel. The House of Commons was originally a body called to represent the wants and the capabilities of the freeholders and the burgesses, and to assist the Crown, by its advice and its money, in governing the kingdom. Now, of course, when men meet in any numbers, their consultations must (by necessity) assume an oratorical—as distinct from a merely colloquial—character; so that there has been speech-making in the House of Commons from early times. But that the talent for making a speech should be thought equivalent to the talent for governing a country—that is the modern and the absurd idea. In fact, that is the corruption of the institution, and seems to be the fatal disease to which such assemblies are liable. It is, no doubt, a perfectly natural idea; in fact, it grew with the growth of the House's power, and has grown with gigantic speed since the accession of George I., in 1714. It grew just as the power of the Crown declined; so that, at present, it is almost necessary for a statesman to prove, *in limine*, that he is a rhetorician. A Government must keep its Janissaries, to terrify the enemy. Like certain Roman emperors, it pets its gladiators. A man comes into the House of Commons, and forthwith lays himself out for talk. When sufficiently conspicuous, he is put into a place where action is required of him: the result is—such action as we now-a-days see. Parties are so busy



VISCOUNT CANNING, THE NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.—(FROM A DRAWING BY RICHMOND, IN HIS LORDSHIP'S POSSESSION.)

fighting who shall have the Government, that Government itself is lost between them. No man is "in" long enough to master the work; he depends on his chief clerks, the chief clerks have established a routine, the routine masters the Minister, and the Minister ruins the army, or whatever else he has on hand. Here and there great connections may partially enable a man to do without debating power, but these cases are rare. Without connections, no man can dispense with it; and if he has debating power, he needs nothing else. Shiel was a charming speaker, no doubt, but quite second-rate in intellect. In France, Lamartine was a charming speaker, but what could he, or did he do? We want invention, depth, design, character. We don't want smart sentences, pretty phrases, and epigrams. We don't want intellectual pleasure only; we can have that at the play.

Is a man of action necessarily a debater? You can name men who have been both, no doubt. Fortunately for Europe, men like Mirabeau and the Pitts occasionally turn up; but the less we calculate on getting such men, now-a-days, the better. The qualities are very rarely combined. Napoleon was beaten (he tells us himself) in mere discussion almost always; William of Orange, Frederick of Prussia, Oliver Cromwell—were all, as speakers or writers, far below the mark which they attained in active life. Government is more like science than letters in the qualities it requires. The best part of such men as it needs is what they never can show—it is an invaluable and invisible power, like breath or magnetism. We do not underrate other qualities, which, in their different sphere, are equally valuable, and in their highest developments are equally rare. The poet, or the artist, or the orator, is a noble being, but every man has his function; besides which, Europe is worse off for men who can act than for men who can write or paint—to an alarming degree at present!

Take the converse of the proposition. Is a debater necessarily a man of action? Would that he were! But here we shall have few opponents. Who cares for the administrative abilities of your Shiels, Bernal Osbornes, &c., &c.? What dozens of orators were let loose on Pitt—brilliant men, who came reeking from gaming-houses and Burgundy to astonish the House of Commons! What "tremendous cheers" they provoked! But the country was struck by his cold, calm, classical, marble figure, for they felt that he had character. How the debaters assailed the Duke of Wellington! And how did that end? Never was there such debating as that which impeached Warren Hastings; but there is our Indian empire to show for what he did, and the oratory has become a curiosity. In everything belonging to literature Hastings was below mediocrity, and is only remembered in that line by a respectable translation of an ode in Horace.

Now, what is the practical upshot of all this? We know that, as Aristophanes says—

"Tis a hard thing, and of stern judgment too,
And greater than belies the comic art,
To beat an old dolt as he is bred in the State."

We know that it is hard to persuade people not to listen to plausible harangues; we know that they will not observe even this common phenomenon—that in any public meeting it is often one of the most ordinary men in the room who can "speak" most glibly, while some strange want keeps his betters on their seats. We know, too—and we respect this side of it—that our public speaking is cherished as one of our national English rights and liberties. Nevertheless, there is a time for all things, and our rights and liberties are in no danger whatever, while we are in danger from the abuse of what the Scotch coarsely, but forcibly, call "the gift of the gab." We want the war finished; all recent elections show that the people want it well finished—gentry, Tories, operatives, and all, being bent on an honourable termination to it. But disappointed statesmen, who hate it because they bungled it—narrow-minded manufacturers, who care for nothing but manufactures—and Parliamentary gladiators, who must fight or be obscure—will all be so many obstacles; and having "Parliamentary talent" among them, formidable ones. A dissolution might turn many of them out of Parliament, and this may come; but, whether or no, opinion is all-powerful in the last resort; and if the Government shows itself in earnest, we hope opinion will back it up. It is rather hard, at all times, that we should rely for men on the petty tests of debating societies, but never was its hardness so felt as now. By a little self-control we might stultify ourselves in the matter of intellectual amusement, and be content to have the "Times" shorn of some of its attractions as an intellectual "Bell's Life." The period is becoming so serious, that we shall do well, at least, to make the effort.

LORD CANNING AND OUR INDIAN EMPIRE.

We accept the appointment of Lord Canning to the Governor-Generalship of India as an earnest of the good intentions of Government. In the present day, and under our present Ministers, we can scarcely expect to see a commoner in possession of that power which Warren Hastings wielded so ably; but Lord Canning is no ordinary peer, and might well have won a peerage if he had not inherited one. The honour, indeed, which his father won for him have never been tarnished by him; and, whilst his possession of them is a confirmation of the saying that the career of greatness has ever been open to talent in England, the manner in which he has won them has given no countenance to those who hold that men of genius are ever unfortunate in their sons.

The family of Lord Canning belongs entirely to the people. His ancestors were merchants, filling the office of chief magistrate in Bristol and London, and employing part of their wealth in beautifying, repairing, and endowing the churches of their native towns; country squires, dwelling on the same estate through many generations; stout Irish Protestants battling sturdily with James the Second for their liberties and their rights. His grandfather professed and maintained liberal views of politics at a time when to profess liberal principles was tantamount to saying, "*Nono episcopari*." I forswear power, and desire no place." He was the friend of Wilkes and Churchill, but he endured such a poverty as would have sorely tried the patriotism of Wilkes, with an honourable and decent composure such as Churchill could never maintain. Of his son—"who," to borrow his own language, "with no pretensions to wealth, or title, or high family, or wide-spreading connections, found his way to the cabinet of his sovereign through the fair road of public service, and stood there upon a footing of equality with the proudest aristocracy of the land"—of his son, who, even when he was fighting in opposition to the popular feeling of the day, could use these remarkable words in addressing a public assembly, "If to defend directly upon the people as their representative in Parliament; if, as a servant of the Crown, to lean on no other support than that of public confidence,—if that be to be an adventurer, I plead guilty to the charge, and I would not exchange that situation, to whatever taunts it may expose me, for all the advantages which might be derived from an ancestry of an hundred generations";—of his son, we repeat, it is needless for us to speak.

Lord Canning was born in the year 1812, in which year also Lord Dalhousie, whom he succeeds in the Government of India, first saw the light. He is, therefore, in the prime of manhood, and is so far fitted to undertake the duties of the most difficult and responsible office which the Government can bestow. He distinguished himself greatly at college, but from the time of his first entry into Parliament (he sat for Warwickshire in 1836), until the day on which he became Postmaster-General, his life was quiet and unobtrusive. Since the latter date it has been eminently so: visible to his country. It has been too much the fashion (both with a public and with the holders of the office), to regard the office of Post-

master-General as a splendid sinecure, the fortunate holder of which need have no other care than to dispense his patronage in the manner best calculated to bring or preserve adherents to the Government. Lord Canning took a widely different view of his duties and responsibilities. He looked upon the Post Office as an eminently popular institution, as a powerful engine for promoting the happiness of the people, for binding together distant nations with the strong bond of mutual interest, and for civilising the remotest regions of the earth. He saw what an increase of power the improvements of Mr. Rowland Hill had given to this mighty engine, and what additional strength it would possess, if worked in all its parts by agents of energy, ability, and zeal. He found plans in agitation for the re-modelling of an establishment, into which the laxity of his predecessors had introduced many persons ill qualified for their posts, whilst it contained many others, who, if competent at first, were now disqualified by age. It was above all things necessary that the new arrangements should be carried out with kindness as well as firmness; and that those who, under a culpably kind *regime*, had gained a lien on the department, and were disqualified for employment elsewhere, should be dealt with tenderly and considerately. In order, then, that he might find employment for all who required it, and at the same time advance the most competent to the higher offices, Lord Canning sacrificed his patronage, and for many months made no new appointment whatever. But he did more. He applied himself to business with the zeal which is observable in some who love work for its own sake, and with the steady purpose of those who regard it as a duty; he mastered the details of an eminently complicated business; he identified himself with the progress of the institution; and while he lent the whole force of his mind to the development of the powers of the institution, and strove to adapt it to the requirements of the day, and make it serviceable, not merely to this nation, but to the world, he had a thought and a glance for the humbler agents in it, did his best to better their condition, and aided, with his purse and with his friendly counsel, their efforts on behalf of those amongst them, who were too early overtaken by death to have made provision for their families. The fruit of this conduct will be twofold. He has, we think, made it impossible for the Government to give him an unworthy successor. Any such appointment would be fatal, we believe, to the present constitution of the Post Office, and would inevitably lead to the abolition of the office of Postmaster-General. He has taught the public that a Postmaster-General may take a prominent part in the management of his department, not only without throwing it into confusion, but to its manifest advantage; that he may be a disciplinarian, yet never lose the suavity and the charity of a Christian gentleman; and that he may dispense his patronage to others than broken-down footmen, retainers of actresses, and younger sons of importunate money-lenders, cousins ten times removed, and nearer relatives who had better have been removed altogether. He has shown the public what a Postmaster-General may, and should be; and, if we mistake not, the public will require his successors to follow his example.

So much for the first fruit of his conduct. The second is the confidence with which he will inspire the people of India.

The vastness of our Indian Empire is a theme for every English school-boy; but the variety of interests which its Governors must consider, and the conflicting aims at which they must strive, are perhaps not regarded so frequently as they should be by statesmen. For there is still the old difficulty, that, in an empire of unparalleled extent, a mere handful of Europeans, who cannot even rear their children away from the mother country, who cannot preserve their own health save by occasional visits to their mother country, and who must draw their ships, their arms, their equipment, and their best soldiers from the mother country, are to maintain their ascendancy over millions of men inured to the climate, over desperate bands of predatory mountaineers, and over armies of natives trained by themselves in all the arts of European warfare. And this great difficulty is now enhanced, firstly, by the gradual but steady progress of the natives in wealth and knowledge, and by the fact that numbers of them, trained either in England or by Englishmen, have acquired English notions of liberty; and, secondly, it is enhanced by the war in which we are now engaged, and which compels us to draw off from India great numbers of our troops. We begin to see now upon how frail a chance our possession of India depends, and to tremble lest, while we are fighting for dominion elsewhere, the Anglo-Indians, unsustained by reinforcements from home, should gradually waste away in the midst of their vast possessions. For, be it remembered, the Anglo-Indian is not a colonist in any sense of the word. He has not exterminated the original inhabitants of the soil; on the contrary, they have multiplied exceedingly under his mild and peaceful rule. He has not intermarried with them, and laboured to break down the prejudices which stand in the way of international union; on the contrary, he has cherished and respected those prejudices, and fenced them round with a few additional prejudices imported by himself. He is, therefore, as his fathers were, a mere sojourner in the land—a visitor who must go back again or perish, whenever the remittances from home are stopped. It is but too evident that a long continuance of the present war will entail upon us the necessity of leaving the Anglo-Indians to depend upon their own resources; and we esteem it fortunate that, at a crisis so imminent, Lord Canning has been appointed to the management of those resources. For we know of him thus much, that difficulties may be too great for his fortune, but never for his spirit; that to the welfare of India he will devote his whole energy, his whole time, and his whole ability; and that whatever a well-stored and well-practised mind, a kind heart, and a resolute temper can do for a nation, will be done by him. He will know how to moderate the insolence of the conqueror, and raise the spirits of the conquered; to restrain the inordinate desires and overweening pride of the Anglo-Indians; to teach the natives that they may more readily compete with us in the arts of peace than in those of war, that there is a career open to them as well as to us, and that not only their lives and liberties are safer with us than with despots of their own race and creed, but that we open to their ambition countless paths which those despots would have closed, and offer to their inquiring minds a philosophy more profound than any yet meditated by their sages, and a science the material results of which transcend the greatest marvels of which their wildest poets have ever dreamed.

He will know how, also, if need be, to check the first murmurs of revolt, and to oppose that firm front to sedition which is worth more than an armed host.

And perchance, not unmindful of his former office, and remembering how it was the business of the department over which he once ruled, to promote union by the dissemination of knowledge, he will take steps, at one time, to make India known to us—known in her wild and curious history, known in her wondrous monuments of the past, known in her strange systems of philosophy, and known in all her wealth of natural productions; and, at another time, to fashion channels through which a knowledge of England may percolate until it spreads over the whole of his empire, so that the rulers and the ruled, though debarred from a material union by the prejudices of caste, and race, and creed, may be united mentally by a common admiration of mutual good qualities, and by a common perception of mutual interests.

Lord Canning left London on Monday last for Paris, en route to Marseilles, accompanied by Lady Canning. His Excellency and suite were to embark on board H.M.S. *Caradoc*, at Marseilles, this day, for Alexandria. It is expected that Viscount Canning will succeed the Marquis of Dalhousie early in January.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The King of Sardinia's visit has been monopolising public attention, and exciting much enthusiasm. His Majesty arrived at Marseilles on the 22nd ult., and, on reaching Paris next day, was received at the terminus of the Lyons railway by Prince Napoleon, by whom he was conducted to the Tuileries, where the King was welcomed by the Emperor with much cordiality.

On the 24th, the King left the Palace in a private carriage, and drove through the French capital. Later in the day, the Emperor accompanied the King to the Bois de Boulogne. His Sardinian Majesty then visited Prince Jerome, Prince Napoleon, and the Princess Mathilde. In the evening, the Emperor and his Sardinian Majesty honoured the Gymnase.

On the 25th, the King of Sardinia, with the Emperor and Prince Napoleon, visited the Exhibition, and attended the concert given in the central nave. He was immensely cheered.

On the 26th, the Emperor and King of Sardinia went hunting at Compiègne. In the evening their Majesties visited the Grand Opera in State. The streets were illuminated, and the cheering very great.

On the 27th, the Emperor and his royal guest were present at a grand review in the Champ de Mars, and were enthusiastically applauded.

The Paris correspondent of the "Austrian Gazette" says, that on re-entering the Tuileries after his speech on the closing of the Exhibition, the Emperor Napoleon said:—

"Thank God! my conscience tells me that I was right in the policy I have observed in the Eastern question. Since the commencement of this war against Russia, I have often asked myself if the splendour of the throne or the promptings of self-love did not hinder me from discerning at some decisive moment whether or no I was in the right path. But the echo which my words have awakened to-day, not only in the hearts of my own people, but amongst the representatives of all the nations of the world, assembled in the Crystal Palace, gives me the deepest conviction that our cause is a holy and righteous cause, the triumph of which I swear to fulfil."

SPAIN.

THE 19th ult. being the Queen's *fête* day, her Majesty gave a splendid ball, to which the diplomatic body, the Ministers, many of the nobility, the judges, some of the journalists, and many of the National Guards, and, in fact, persons of all classes of society were invited. Lord Howden, the English Ambassador, and Marshal Espartero, were unable to attend from indisposition. The Queen opened the ball with Marshal O'Donnell, and was remarkably gracious to him. In the course of the day, a deputation of the Cortes presented an address of congratulation to her Majesty, and in replying to it the Queen prayed Heaven to "prolong her existence, in order that she might devote it to the welfare of her beloved Spain, with whose constitutional liberties her throne and dynasty are intimately bound up!"

The official despatches from the provinces are stated to contain nothing new. The health of Marshal Espartero is completely re-established. In the Cortes, the discussion on the project of law on Military Substitutes was being proceeded with.

The Parliamentary Committee proposes the adoption of the principles of free trade.

The Queen has refused to accept the resignation of M. Olozaga, who will, consequently, resume his duties at Paris; and the Ministerial crisis is supposed to have passed over.

AUSTRIA.

SIR HAMILTON SEYMOUR has given orders to engage a new residence for the Embassy, as the lease of the present building has expired. He is expected to arrive in Vienna in a few weeks.

The 19th ult. being the *fête* of the Empress, a solemn "Te Deum" was performed in the church of St. Stephen, at which, in addition to the *corps diplomatique*, all the civil and military authorities were present. Their Majesties, on this occasion, assembled all the members of the Imperial family now at Vienna, at a banquet at Schœnbrunn. Prince Louis of Bavaria, brother of the Empress, was also present.

The Dowager Empress Caroline Augusta has arrived at Vienna from Salzburg to pass the winter.

The new Concordat meets with no mercy at the hands of the German journalists. The organs of the clerical party in Germany are at great pains to show that the close union between the Church of Rome and the word of Austria is a death-blow to the machinations of the revolutionary faction in Italy; but lay conservatives predict that, sooner or later, the Concordat will lead to the downfall of the Austrian empire. The effect produced on the people by the convention with Rome is so extremely unfavourable that the heads of the Church have directed their subordinates to act with extreme circumspection, "and gradually to accustom their flocks to the new order of things."

The insult to England perpetrated by the Austrians in Wallachia in the person of Colonel Tür, has been speedily followed by a fresh act of violence on the part of an officer in the Austrian service against Dr. Schramm, a medical man in the Wallachian service, son of an officer formerly in the French service under the Empire, and himself educated in France, and long under the protection of her authorities.

The amount of subscription to the Austrian Crédit Mobilier will be 15 millions of florins. The lists will be open from the 10th to the 15th of December.

PRUSSIA.

THE Prussian Cabinet has addressed remonstrances to the Government of Austria on the subject of the pastor Borzinski, who had been arrested in Austria for having quitted the Catholic Church and embraced the Protestant faith. These remonstrances have been very energetically supported by the English Ambassador at Vienna, and the result has been Borzinski has been set at liberty.

The example of the French Government, which requested the directors of the different railway companies to employ as large a number of workmen as possible during the winter season, has found imitators at Berlin, and the Government has just addressed a circular to that effect to all the railway companies.

RUSSIA.

THE three Grand Dukes, Constantine, Nicholas, and Michael, had, by recent accounts, returned to St. Petersburg. The last two will set out for the army towards the end of this month. Advices from St. Petersburg state that the visit of the Czar to the Crimea has confirmed the worst apprehensions of the state of things there.

A letter from St. Petersburg, which has reached Vienna, states that in consequence of the Emperor Alexander having by his late journey personally satisfied himself of the real state of the different civil and military administrations, numerous modifications will shortly take place in them throughout Russia. Notwithstanding the war, active preparations are being made to unite the different parts of the empire by a network of railways. The Russian government intends, for this purpose, to grant concessions to foreign companies.

General Korff, who was recalled after his unsuccessful cavalry action at Koughill, has since died.

A letter from Grodnow, in Russia, states that the new recruiting of the Russian army meets with great difficulties, the diseases prevalent last summer having made great havoc among the young men, those that have survived being mostly unfit for service, while many have escaped over the frontier into Prussia, or hid themselves in the interior. The recruits are immediately sent off to the depôts, to prevent further desertion.

The insurrectional movements which have taken place upon many points of the Ukraine, are of a more serious character than has been generally supposed. It has been found necessary to despatch artillery and troops against the malecontents.

Accounts from Warsaw represent Prince Paskiewitch as seriously ill. The King of Prussia has sent Dr. Schombein, the Court Physician, to the suffering veteran.

DENMARK.

THE King of Denmark passed last week in hunting at the chateau of Jagerspris, but left that residence on Saturday last, in anticipation of the arrival of General Canrober, at Copenhagen. The Gallant General arrived by an English steamer on the same day. He was received on landing by the military commandant of Copenhagen, and an aide-de-camp to the King, and saluted by the crowd with loud acclamations. On Monday afternoon he was conducted to the palace of Christianborg, where he had an audience of the King, after which there was a Gala Banquet, at which Prince Ferdinand was present.

The conferences on the Sound dues commenced on the 20th instant. America was not represented.

SWEDEN.

GENERAL CARROBERT left Stockholm for Copenhagen on the 20th ult. The King of Sweden, wishing to give a striking mark of his leaning towards the cause which the Allied Powers support in the East, has named General Carrobert, as ex-General-in-Chief of the army in the Crimea, Grand Cross of the Order of the Seraphim, a distinction seldom conferred upon crowned heads and members of Sovereign families. One of the King's adjutants, Count Björnstjerna, accompanied him to the frontier. At Copenhagen they had prepared a brilliant reception for the General.

It is stated that the success of General Carrobert's mission to Sweden is expected to have engaged that Power to assent to the Four Points as the basis of a future operation; and that Sweden's co-operation with the Allied Powers is not to be more active than that of Austria.

It is daily becoming more probable that two of the more considerable German Powers will bring the Eastern question before the Diet.

The result of that step, and of General Carrobert's mission, would be, that almost all Europe would unite in calling on Russia to accept the Four Points as explained by the Western Powers.

ITALY.

SEVERAL political arrests have taken place in Rome.

The Pope has published an apostolic letter, announcing to the Catholic world the intelligence given a week earlier to the Sacred College, of the happy ratification of the concordat with Austria. The publication of this apostolic letter is said to have been hastened in order to prevent any ill consequences resulting from the tenor of the treaty being known before its solemn ratification. The Pope himself is in the highest spirits about it, and informed an English gentleman, who recently joined the Catholic Church, and had an audience of his Holiness on that occasion, that the bitterness of his sufferings with respect to the disagreement with the Sardinian Government was in a great measure alleviated by the successful negotiations with that of Austria.

The Pope has appointed Mgr. Vecchiotti to the post of Nuncio at the Hague.

The "New Gazette of Zurich" says:—"Other political arrests have just been effected in Lombardy. Persons coming from Switzerland are minutely searched on their arrival at Camerata, which leads to the supposition that fears are entertained of attempts being expected from the Swiss cantons."

SARDINIA.

At the sitting of the 19th, of the Chamber of Deputies of Turin, the President of the Council announced the intended departure of the King. Various bills were introduced, among which was one, the extraordinary budget, and the establishment of a branch of the national bank at Cagliari. The Chamber then decided upon suspending its sittings for a few days, in order to attend the bureaux or committees.

The "Corriere Mercantile" of Genoa states, that it is the intention of the Piedmontese Government to meet the exigencies of the State by opening a loan to the amount of 30,000,000*fr.*, with a sinking fund of 1 per cent.

During the absence of the King of Sardinia from his States, Prince Eugene of Carignan is entrusted with the direction of affairs. Dr. Lanzy assumes the direction of the Department of Finance during the absence of Count Cavour.

The Minister of War, in order to favour enrolments in the Anglo-Italian Legion, has decided that officers of the Sardinian army now in receipt of pensions, who enter that corps, shall not lose either their pension or the rank which they had attained.

The Sardinian steamer *Governolo* has arrived at Genoa with the two guns taken from the Russians at the battle of the Tchernaya.

TURKEY.

THE Government of the Porte is said to have very lately addressed to France and England the most energetic notes on the outrages of the Austrians in the Principalities, and that the Allied Governments are on the point of taking measures which may seriously occupy the Cabinet of Vienna.

The Sultan, during the residence of Admiral Bruat at Constantinople, presented him with a sword of honour, and gave several splendid entertainments, at which the Admiral was the special guest.

INDIA AND CHINA.

THE Indian Mail, which left Alexandria on Nov. 21, brings intelligence from Calcutta to Oct. 22, from Bombay to Nov. 2, and from Hong Kong to Oct. 15.

The Santals were still in rebellion.

Much rain had fallen in the Bombay presidency. Business was suspended on account of the holidays.

From China we learn that the imperialists have been defeated by the Patriots near Chin-Keang-Foo.

The War.

OPERATIONS IN THE CRIMEA.

COUNCIL OF WAR AT SEBASTOPOL.

The following letter, dated Kamiesch, the 6th ult., states that "the squadron of Admiral Bruat had arrived, and is to take on board the Imperial Guard, which is returning to France. The presence of that naval force has imparted extraordinary activity to our roads. On the morning of the 3rd the Admiral came ashore, and immediately left for headquarters, with a few officers of his staff. Admiral Lyons also landed at an early hour from the *Hannibal*, and waited upon General Simpson. All subsequently met in the house of the Marshal, who highly complimented his colleague of the navy on the result of the brilliant expedition to Kinburn. The breakfast was followed by a council of war. This fact, which was quite natural, gave some credit to a report circulated on the arrival of the English squadron, namely, that a new expedition was contemplated. I have reason to believe that such an expedition was intended, for the purpose of destroying some extensive provision stores belonging to the enemy, and making a diversion on his left; but it was afterwards abandoned."

THE DOINGS OF THE FRENCH AND SARDINIANS AT SEBASTOPOL. Another letter from Kamiesch, of the 6th ult., says:—"Our position at Sebastopol has not changed. The city and the northern forts continue to exchange shells. The fire of the Russians is more active than ours. In spite of the vigilance of the enemy, our daring seamen often play tricks upon him. Under cover of the darkness, boats enter the roads of Sebastopol, take soundings, and survey the opposite coast. They also silently cut the masts of the sunken ships, which alone appear above the surface of the water, and examine their position. From the masts of one of these ships still floated the Russian flag, forgotten, no doubt, in the precipitate retreat of the crew. Officers and men more than once determined on laying hold of it; but the ship was lying nearly in the centre of the roads, and completely protected by the enemy's guns. The attempts made during the last cold nights of October, had been unsuccessful, on account of the moonlight, the Russians, at the least stir, pouring in that direction a shower of projectiles, which rendered the operations, if not impossible, at least very dangerous. Finally, some nights ago, the attempt succeeded. The Russian colours were removed, and presented to the Admiral. The Army Corps on the Tchernaya is constantly kept on the *qui vive*, expecting to be attacked by the Russians, who are in no hurry to descend from their positions. The general opinion, however, is that they cannot remain on the plateaus of Mackenzie and Belbek. The French and Sardinian outposts continually exchange shots with those of the enemy. The best possible understanding exists between the Sardinian troops and ours."

WHAT THE ENGLISH ARE DOING.

The English are now executing stupendous works. Any person venturing to speak of the evacuation of the Crimea would be laughed at. There is evidently no such intention on the part of the Allies, for why should the English be constructing magnificent roads, building a new town with stone in the neighbourhood of Balaclava, repairing part of the

town, and extending the railway, if the country was to be abandoned? Every day 6,000 men are employed in those works. The English army is at present more flourishing; and numerous than ever. It numbers about 50,000 men, and reinforcements are daily arriving. Our last accounts from Kinburn were brought by the squadron. The place is covered on the land side by formidable works. Kinburn will be protected by the squadron of Commander Paris, consisting of several frigates, now anchored along the coast of Ochinkow, and the floating batteries *Decastation, Lore, and Tonnante*. The division of General Chasseloup-Laubat is arriving by degrees, and occupies the former quarters of the Foreign Legion.

THE DEMOLITION OF THE DOCKS.

Nov. 10.—The enemy have not been strengthening, apparently, the north side any more, but they had a grand review on the 6th; their firing, too, has been less lately. Our battery in Sebastopol was also completed, with the exception of the armings, on the 6th. The demolition of the docks is still being proceeded with. The French engineers expect to be ready in about a month, and the English in six weeks; but then the former have 6 engineer officers, and 140 of their men employed; while the latter have only 2 officers and about 80 men. The demolition is not to be a total or violent destruction, but simply an effectual one. So that all that is going to be done is to blow out the bottoms of the sides, which will take the whole out of the perpendicular. Our Allies destroy the first two docks, the entrance, and half the basin; we destroy the other half of the basin, and the rear three docks, all of which are 29 feet deep, 40 feet broad at bottom, and 191 feet long, between the farthest stone skids. At top the East Dock is 238 feet long, the Centre 236, and the West 233 feet. A great saving of blasting powder will be caused by this telegraphic order from home, viz., an "effectual" destruction only—certainly a saving of 100,000 pounds of powder will be effected. Karabelina suburb and the white buildings behind the Redan still furnish our army with plenty of stone and timber. The former can be cut easily into any shape with a hand-saw. It is quite white, and does not appear either to lose its colour or harden by being exposed to the air.

THE NEW COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF—RETIREMENT OF GENERAL SIMPSON.

Nov. 12.—The event of chief importance affecting the interests of the British army in the East has been the retirement of General Simpson, and the assumption of the supreme command by General Sir William Codrington, K.C.B. General Codrington took over charge, and was duly installed yesterday, and to-day General Simpson quitted headquarters, in a quiet, unostentatious way, to return to England.

THE CONSEQUENT SUBORDINATE CHANGES.

Lieutenant-General Airey, quartermaster-general, will leave, it is said, in the course of the week, to assume the duties of quartermaster-general at the Horse Guards. There will be a new chief of the staff, and it is understood that Major-General Windham, at present in command of the Fourth Division, will receive the appointment. Lieutenant-General Barnard, chief of the staff under General Simpson, and Lieutenant-General Sir William Eyre, commanding the Third Division, will have temporary command, each of a corps d'armée, until it is decided whether these commands are accepted by Lieutenant-General Sir Colin Campbell and Lieutenant-General Markham, to whom they are previously offered, but who are at present absent from the field. General Markham's ill state of health, it is feared, will prevent him from some time to come from taking a part in the campaign; and Sir Colin Campbell, it is said, made no secret of the improbability of his returning to active service.

[In another column we give a brief notice of General Markham's death, which adds a melancholy interest to the above paragraph.]

DISTRIBUTION OF BOOTY AND TROPHIES FOUND IN SEBASTOPOL.

Nov. 13.—The effective strength of the Anglo-Sardinian army on the 5th of September was 63,715 men, and that of the French army on the same day was 126,705 men. The Anglo-French Commission, therefore, decided that France should have two-thirds, and Great Britain one-third of the value of the booty and trophies. The number of cannon in bronze (brass) is 128, that of iron guns, 3,711; total, 3,839. It was declared impossible to fix their value immediately, in consequence of want of sufficient information and of the necessity of employing the iron guns in the defence of the place. The Commission then passed on to the partition of the other materiel taken, and divided them into three parts, two-thirds for France and one-third for England, with the understanding that they are to remain for the supply of the defence. The quantity and quality of the breadstuffs found in the magazines having been examined, were declared unfit for the use of the allied armies, and it was decided that they should be sent to Eupatoria, for the support of the Tartars, to whom the Allies furnish subsistence, and the French Intendance is charged with that duty.

ANOTHER BOMBARDMENT AT SEBASTOPOL EXPECTED.

In the course of a communication which appears in the *Correspondence Générale*, of Vienna, after an account of the new batteries erected on the south side of Sebastopol, it is said:—"The English and French officers are agreed upon this point, that the fire against the northern forts will commence at the end of the month of November."

THE EXPEDITIONARY CORPS AT EUPATORIA.

Marshal Pelissier, in his recent report to the French Minister of War, gives the following account of a successful *coup-de-main* effected on the 3rd of November by the expeditionary corps of Eupatoria, under the orders of General d'Allonville:—

"General d'Allonville having received information that large flocks, destined for the use of the Russian army, were collected near El-Toch, eight leagues north of Eupatoria, attempted to capture them by a *coup-de-main*, which perfectly succeeded.

"With this object in view, he sent in the direction of El-Toch General Ali Pacha, commander of the Ottoman cavalry, with the Irregulars and some Turkish squadrons, as well as two French and two English squadrons. At the same time he left the town with the remainder of the French and English troops, to support the operation.

"The English cavalry brigade advanced on Djollach, the French cavalry brigade on Tioumen; De Failly's division, formerly the reserve, took up a position between Orta-Mamai and Schiban.

"Meantime General Ali Pacha advanced on El-Toch, meeting only a few Cossacks, who fled on his approach, although supported by a force of some squadrons.

"At 5 p.m. Ali Pacha sent word to General d'Allonville that his operation had succeeded; and at 9 o'clock he returned to Eupatoria, bringing with him 270 oxen, 3,450 sheep, 50 horses, 10 camels, and 20 wagons, captured from the Russians."

THE WAR IN ASIA.

A RECENT letter from Trebisond states that the Russian troops before Kars are hutting themselves, which would seem to denote on the part a determination to continue the blockade.

It is stated that the garrison of Kars has received some provisions from a convoy intended for the Russian army. The conductors of it, Persians, allowed themselves to be bribed, and for a certain sum of money consented to deliver up to the Turks what was intended for their enemies.

According to the last accounts, says the *Moniteur*, Omar Pacha was expecting a battle. General Mouravieff had detached a division from his army, which was advancing by forced marches on Kutais, by the Akhiska road. About 8,000 Turks, under Mustapha-Pacha, had left Batoum to try and cut off this detachment. Early in the month they had reached Osurgethi. The Commander-in-Chief bade them meet him at Kutais, which will become the theatre of some important engagement, unless the Russians prefer intrenching themselves in the defiles which protect the advance on Tiflis.

"There are grounds for believing," says the *Post*, "that the telegraphic despatch, stating that the army of General Mouravieff had crossed the Arpatchai into Georgia, is correct. The fact that only some 10,000 Georgian militia have hitherto opposed the progress of Omar Pacha, shows the weakness of the Russians, and discovers the imperative necessity which compels General Mouravieff to raise the siege of Kars, unless he would expose himself to the interruption of his communications, the loss of Tiflis itself, and the risk of a capitulation. The great victory at Kars has so shattered the main body of the Russians, that it is doubted whether as many as 15,000 men remain under the orders of General Mouravieff. Under these circumstances, we hope soon to receive the certain news of

the safety of Kars and its gallant defenders, and of the triumphant progress of Omar Pacha."

PASSAGE OF THE INGOUR.

Detailed accounts of Omar Pacha's passage of the Ingour have come to hand. They place in a strong light the gallantry of the British officers, of whom the previous brief reports had contained no mention, and supply a few interesting details of the encounter with the Russians, but do not modify in any important particular the intelligence forwarded a fortnight since by Lord Redcliffe. Five British officers were engaged at the Ingour; two, namely, Colonel Simmonds and Colonel Ballard—the former of whom was with Omar Pacha at Varna, Eupatoria, and Kamara, and the latter distinguished for his conduct at Silistria—led columns across the river. We regret to state that Captain Dymock, aide-de-camp of Col. Simmonds, was killed at the head of a battalion with which he was charging the Russians. Of the other English officers, three had horses shot under them. The Turkish army is described as full of confidence and *elan*, and looking forward with eagerness for an advance on Kutais.

POSITION OF TURKISH AND RUSSIAN FORCES.

Omar Pacha quitted Soukkum-Kaleh with the troops under his orders and had advanced into the interior at one hour's distance in the direction of Anaklia, on the Turkish side of the river Ingour. On the other bank the Russians were stationed—they were from 15,000 to 16,000 in number, and were fortified by means of redoubts and other works. Their position was very formidable. On the 7th of November, the Imperial troops advanced boldly towards the river, for the purpose of crossing it, and attacking the enemy. Arrived on the bank, they were received by a violent cannonade, to which they replied.

THE CROSSING OF THE RIVER.

Notwithstanding the velocity of the current and the depth of the water, the Turkish troops, after firing a volley, dashed across the river in the face of a cruel fire, and in splendid style drove the Russians into the woods behind at the point of the bayonet. At almost the same moment Colonel Simmonds, at the head of two battalions of Infantry and three companies of Rifles, crossed the river in front of the fort, and assaulted it under a murderous fire. Here his aide-de-camp, Captain Dymock, was killed while gallantly charging at the head of his battalion, while a Russian column, which attacked them in flank, was promptly met by the column under Col. Simmonds at the point of the bayonet and completely routed. This decided the day.

THE RETREAT OF THE RUSSIANS.—THE LOSSES.

The Russians evacuated the battery in the utmost confusion, leaving five guns and ammunition wagons in our hands, besides about 50 prisoners. The ground was strewn with killed and wounded; their loss must have been very great, though so many escaped into the woods to die that it is difficult to form any just estimate. Upwards of 300 have already been found, among which were the bodies of eight officers and two colonels. Twenty-two horses were counted lying dead in one heap. Our own loss amounts to 400 killed and wounded, of which about 100 were killed. The Rifles alone lost 26 men killed, and 75 wounded.

The Russian army was in full retreat on Kutais on the 5th ult.

VALEDICTORY LETTER OF ADMIRAL BRUAT TO ADMIRAL LYONS.

THE death of Admiral Bruat, announced in another column, gives a melancholy interest to the following letter:—

My dear Colleague,—I am happy, before my departure, to have to transmit to you the congratulations which his Excellency the Minister of Marine has charged me to address to you, as well as to the brave seamen who so ably seconded you in the attack on the forts of Kinburn.

His Excellency the Minister of Marine warmly participates in the satisfaction felt by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, at the complete concord that has always existed between us, as well as between the officers and seamen of the two squadrons. It is to this good understanding that the Minister of Marine, like their Lordships, more especially attributes the success which has crowned all the maritime operations undertaken in concert by the combined naval forces. The Minister of Marine begs me to address to you, as well as to the officers and crews under your orders, the expression of his gratitude for your cordial co-operation. The Minister charges me, at the same time, to express to you the hope, founded principally on your character, that the good relations so happily established between the *personnel* of the two squadrons, and now cemented by reciprocal esteem, will subsist with the officer who is to succeed me in the command of the naval forces of his Majesty in the Black Sea.

I consider it, my dear colleague, the most agreeable duty that I could have to fulfil, to unite to the congratulations of the Minister of Marine my personal thanks, and the expression of my gratitude for the frank and cordial co-operation you have constantly afforded me. Be kind enough, my dear colleague, to be the interpreter of my feelings to the officers and crews of your squadron. I shall always identify myself with their successes, and shall never forget the glorious part they took in those we obtained in common. Be kind enough, also, my dear colleague, to accept, in conjunction with my gallant friend, Admiral Sir Houston Stewart, the assurance of my most affectionate and devoted sentiments. Accept, &c.,

BRUAT, the Admiral Commanding-in-Chief.

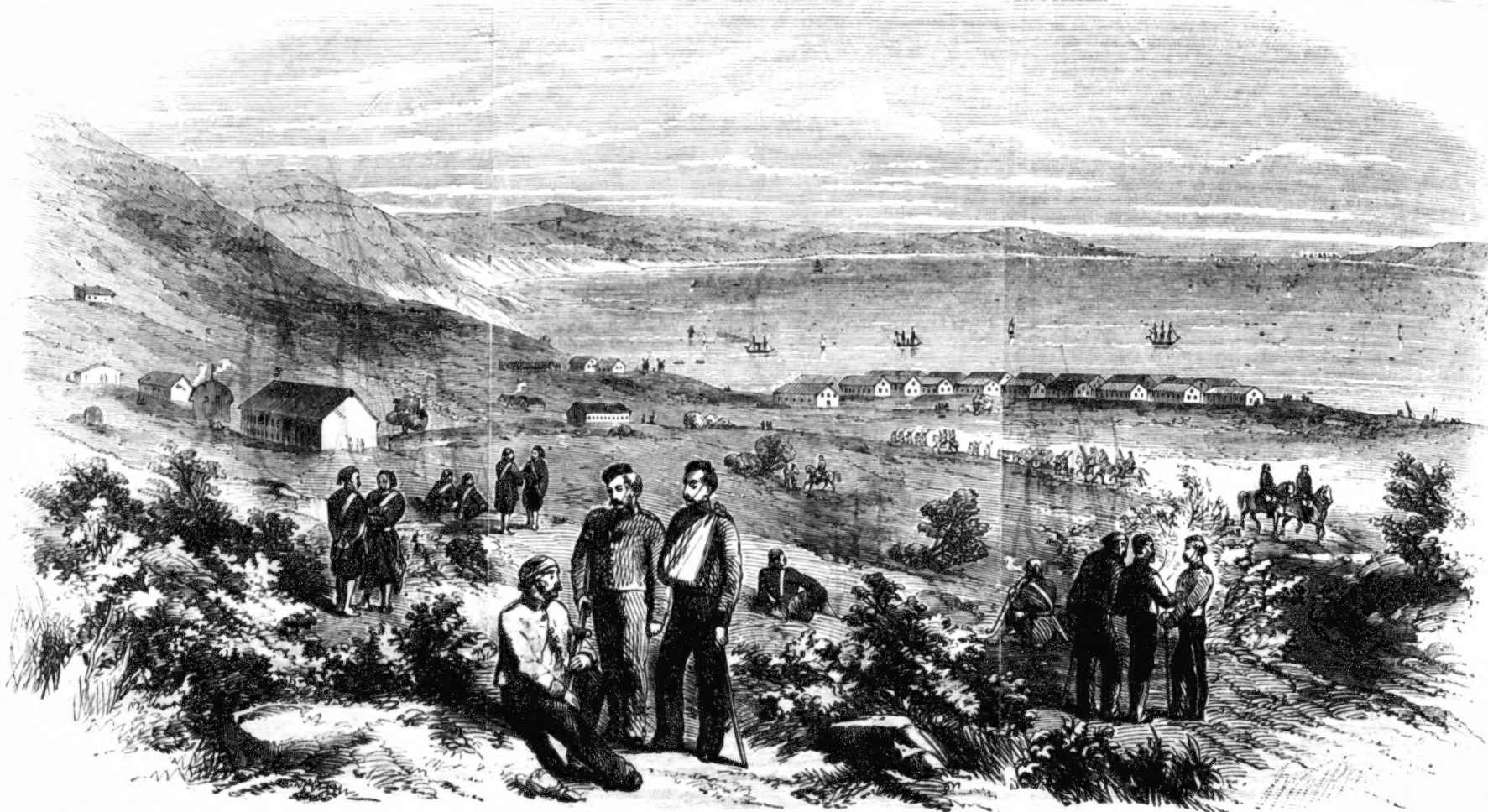
THE COMING CAMPAIGN ON THE PRUTH.

A RUMOUR has oozed out at Constantinople, in the Galata suburb, where most of the emigrants reside, that the English, French, and Turkish military authorities, now at the Tchernaya, have drawn up and settled their plan of campaign for the year 1856. All the cavalry of the Allies, two Anglo-French army corps, the Turkish *Ordu* in Silistria, and the reserve at Shumla, numbering 60,000 strong, are to advance on the Pruth in the month of March or April next, and transfer the seat of war to Bessarabia. In the Crimea the Allies mean to act strictly on the defensive, and it will only be at Eupatoria that a force will be kept in readiness, to act in case of need. This plan is decidedly no Utopian dream of the emigrants, since the Pontic generals cannot possibly think of again limiting the contest to the Crimea for the year 1856. On the contrary, they must be devising how to commence their operations, so as to occupy with the least loss of time the most important line of attack and defence possessed by the Russians—the right bank of the Pruth. Whether the Russians will be able, in the course of this winter, to bring up fresh forces to Kishineff remains to be seen. In the winter ending 1855, and ushering in 1856, they most certainly did bring up troops while the ground was covered with ice and snow.—*Augsburg Gazette*.

THE RUSSIAN ARMY IN FINLAND.

THE "Augsburg Gazette," discussing the rumours of an alliance between Sweden and the Western Powers, volunteers the following numerical statement of the forces collected by Russia in Finland and St. Petersburg:—"Of good troops, Russia has in the northern provinces: The first division of Grenadiers, with the battalions of Chasseurs-Carabiniers, in all 14,000 men; six reserve regiments of Grenadiers, each 3,000 strong, in all 18,000 men; 22 Finnish battalions of the line, at 600 each, in all 13,200 men (the number of these battalions increases every day); three Finnish battalions of Chasseurs under General Ramsay, at 1,000 each, in all 3,000 men. There are, besides, 3,000 men of the naval crews, and the number of batteries corresponding with these divisions. Thus Finland is defended by an army of the best troops more than 50,000 strong, distributed throughout the chain of fortresses that line the coast. But General Arbusoff has under his orders at St. Petersburg an army of 120,000 men, together with the excellent reserves of the Guard. The troops of the infantry corps of the Guard and of the 1st Infantry corps, with the reserves, occupy Revel and Courland. In case of attack, Russia is able to concentrate on the point threatened by Sweden imposing forces, in estimating the amount of which we have taken into account neither the 100,000 men of the militia nor the irregular troops. In this state of things, an offensive war on the part of Sweden against Russia, armed with so considerable a defensive power, presents no chance of success, and ought not to be placed in the category of probably eventualities."

NICOLAIEFF AS IT IS.—Nicolaieff possesses twelve dockyards, six for ships of the line and six for smaller vessels; also immense arsenals, and almost exhaustless materials for shipbuilding. It employs 600 workmen in ordinary times, and 12,000 on occasions of emergency. At present, however, the number, according to German accounts, is not less than 21,000.



PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICERS' QUARTERS. FIELD QUARTERS.

NURSES' QUARTERS.

READING ROOM.

HOSPITAL WARDS.

THE BRITISH HOSPITAL AT RENKIOI.

THE BRITISH CIVIL HOSPITAL AT RENKIOI.

We stated last week, in connection with our illustrations of "Military Hospitals in the East," that the British civil hospital at Smyrna was to be converted into barracks for the Swiss Legion, and that the patients capable of bearing the fatigue of the journey were to be forthwith removed to Renkioi. This circumstance naturally attracts our attention to the civil establishment at the latter place—a general view of which is represented by the accompanying engraving.

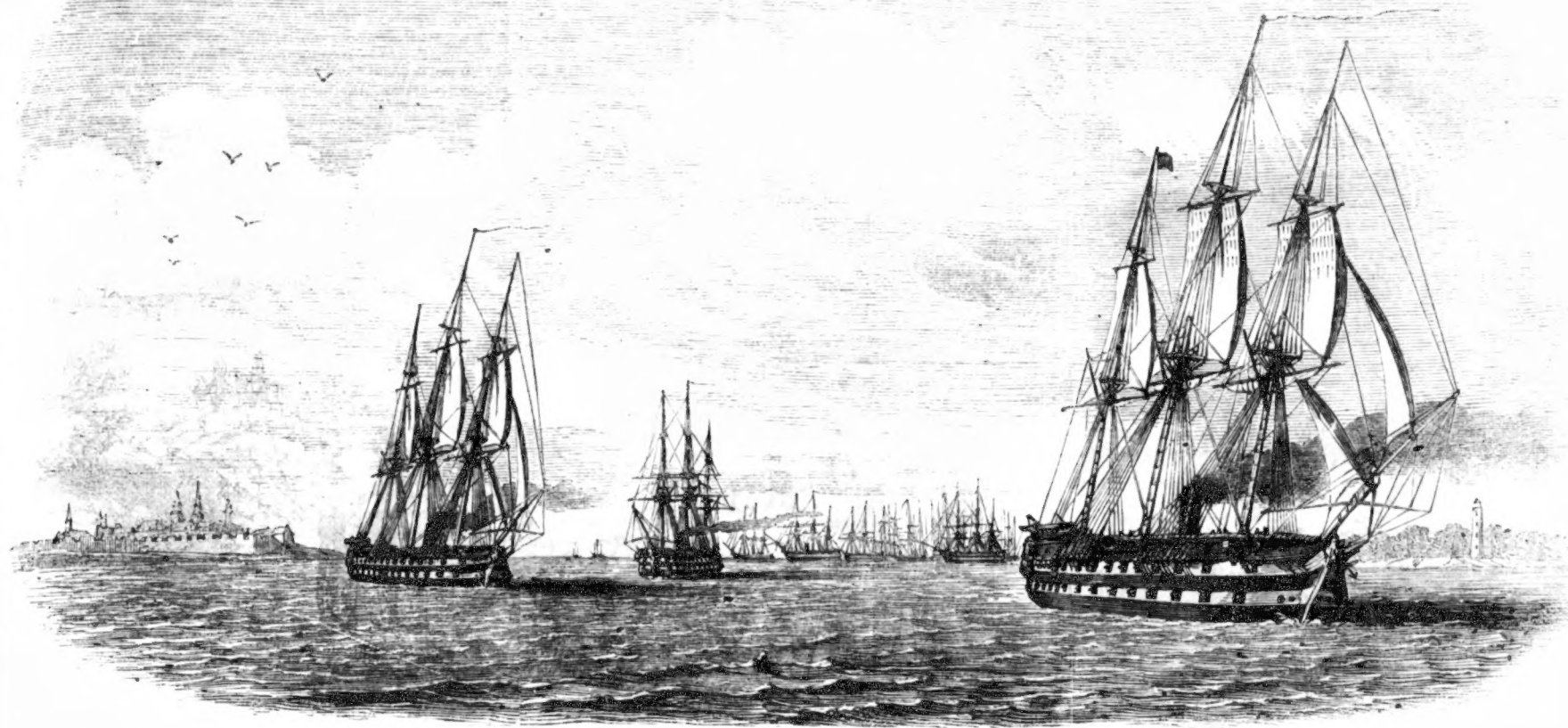
The village of Renkioi lies imbedded in the hills at the mouth of the Dardanelles on the Asiatic side; and at a distance of two miles, upon a flat piece of arable land, which projects about half a mile into the straits, forming a bay to the north and another to the south, and thus securing in one or the other a smooth place for landing when either of the prevailing winds blow, stands the Hospital. It is protected by an amphitheatre of hills against the land wind, which, however, rarely blows; but the rush of water between the Mediterranean and the Sea of Marmora seems to

keep up a perpetual sea breeze, which renders the nights so cold that the inmates can enjoy the luxury of a sound sleep, wrapped up in a blanket, and undisturbed by a perpetual visitation of mosquitos and flies.

The hospital, the erection of which was commenced in May, consists of a number of wooden structures, each sufficiently large to admit of the most economical construction, but otherwise small and compact enough to be easily placed on ground with a considerable slope, without the necessity of placing the floor of any part below the level of the ground, or of having



BASHI-BAZOUKS.



DEPARTURE OF ADMIRAL SEYMOUR'S SQUADRON FROM NARGEN FOR KIEL.—(FROM A SKETCH BY DR. MEYER.)

any considerable height of foundation to carry up under any other part. These separate buildings have been all made of the same size and shape; so that with an indefinite length of open corridor to connect the various parts, they may be arranged in any form to suit the levels and shape of the ground. Each building, except those designed for stores and general purposes, is made to contain in itself all that is absolutely essential for an independent hospital ward-room; and thus, by the lengthening of the corridors, and the addition of any number of these buildings, the hospital may be extended to any degree. To ensure the necessary comforts, and provide against the contingency of any cargo of materials not arriving on the spot in time, each building contains within itself two ward-rooms, one nurse's room, a small store-room, bath-room, and surgery, water closets, lavatories, and ventilating apparatus. The ward-room is wide and high enough to ensure a good quantity of air to each bed, even if these should be unduly crowded. Each building contains two ward-rooms, intended for 26 beds each, which is found in practice to be a size of room admitting of proper control and supervision. As a protection against heat, there is a covering of extremely thin and highly polished tin, which reflects all direct rays of heat, and every piece of woodwork not covered with tin is whitewashed externally. The roofs being first covered with a prepared felt, and then with tin, must be quite impervious to rain. Internally, the lime-wash has a slight tint of colour to take off the glare. To secure ventilation in a hot climate with low buildings extending over a large area, and therefore incapable of being connected with any general system of ventilation, it was considered that forcing in fresh air by a small mechanical apparatus attached to each building would be the only effective means. Each ward-room is therefore furnished with a small fan, or rotatory air-pump, which, easily worked by one man, is found capable of supplying 1,000 to 1,500 cubic feet of air per minute, or 20 to 30 feet for each patient. This air is conveyed along the centre of the floors, and rising up under footboards placed under the tables, is found to flow over the floor to every part of the room. Besides this mechanical supply of air, opening windows are provided along the whole length of the eaves, and spaces left immediately beneath the roof at the two gables, amply sufficient to ventilate the rooms thoroughly if any breezes are stirring, without the help of the fan. The light is admitted by a long range of narrow windows, immediately under the eaves, which protect them from the direct rays of the sun. These windows open, and have shutters inside, which exclude the light, but admit the air. By forcing the air into the room, instead of drawing it out, the entrance of foul air from the closets, drains, or any surrounding nuisances, is prevented. The fan is placed at the opposite end to the closets and drains, and all the fans being in the open corridor, the workmen can be seen by a single sentry, and kept to their work.

The buildings, as first constructed, are adapted to protect the interior from external heat. But as winter is now coming on, the interior is being lathed and plastered. Two buildings of the same form and dimensions are fitted up with every convenience as store-rooms and apothecaries' dispensaries. An iron kitchen, slightly detached from the wooden buildings, fitted up with every contrivance capable of cooking for from 500 to 1,000 patients, is attached. A similar building of iron is furnished with all the machinery lately introduced in the baths and washhouses of London, for washing and drying in the minimum space, and with the least amount of labour. As an aggregate of buildings is to be placed in this one spot for 3,000 patients, a second kitchen and washhouse have been erected. With each set of buildings there is a pumping apparatus, a small general reservoir, and a sufficient length of main, with all its branches, to supply water to every detached building, and all the pipes and branches are of such construction as to admit of being put together without any soldering or cement.

Four rows of buildings are detached from the main body as residences for the officers' establishment. A small detachment of soldiers is accommodated in a ward and marquee. The artisans and nurses are also well lodged in detached buildings. A slaughter-house and store-yard, and some other apartments, are also provided. Iron stoves are being erected in each ward, and each ward building is provided with a small boiler heated by candles, which, by experiment, have been found amply sufficient for all that can be required. Candles are to be used exclusively for lighting, and lamps and lanterns have been constructed for the purpose. A proper supply of fire engines is provided, and other precautionary measures are adopted against fire.

Renkioi is an hospital for our sick and wounded soldiers, not under the charge of the army medical department, but under the auspices of medical men unconnected with this department, selected from eminent members of the profession practising in various parts of England. Dr. Parkes, one of the professors of the London University, is the medical superintendent. The two chief physicians are well known men. Dr. Goodeve was in the East India Company's service for many years, and was a professor in the hospital at Calcutta. Dr. Robertson was one of the physicians to the Edinburgh Infirmary, and a very popular teacher in the Scottish

metropolis. The chief surgeon is Mr. Spencer Wells, lately of the British Hospital at Smyrna, a well known London surgeon, of good repute as a lecturer on surgery, who passed many years in the navy, as surgeon to the Seaman's Hospital at Malta. Thus, medical chiefs have been appointed to the establishment of great previous experience in the diseases of this and other warm climates. The junior members of the staff are numerous, and are stated to be gentlemen of great promise.

The mess-room is a very handsome apartment, and resembles one of those edifices which we see erected in a clearing in an American or New Zealand forest.

All the medical officers, those of the commissariat and purveyor's department, the engineer and his assistant, and the various clerks, form a mess of some 40 or 50 members. All dine together, to save the trouble and expense of separate cooking; and there is no lack of good substantial nourishment in a place so lately almost a desert. What is of more importance, the patients seem to be perfectly satisfied with their dinners and the care bestowed upon them. Ample amusements have been provided for them, in the shape of skittles, quoits, bat and ball, for the convalescents—draughts, backgammon, and chess for the sick.

There were about 200 patients in Renkioi Hospital on the 1st of Nov.; wards, however, were ready for about 400 more, and it was expected that everything would be complete for 1,000 by this date.

The landing places for the sick are two little bays, one protected from the north, the other from the south wind. From the tongue of land which separates them runs a wooden passage or corridor, which will ultimately be nearly half a mile long, and wide enough to constitute a carriage drive.

Supplies for men and horses are obtained from Calvert's farm and the villages in the plains of Troy; and, as many of the roads will be impassable during the winter season after the heavy rains, the medical officers have been careful to lay in supplies of every description. The country surrounding the hospital is purely agricultural, and the natives seem quiet, industrious, and inoffensive, so that there can arise none of the inconveniences in regard to this establishment which are caused by the proximity of a large city.

The situation is said to be particularly healthy; so much so, indeed, that several of the families of Smyrna are in the habit of visiting the neighbourhood to recruit during the summer and autumn.

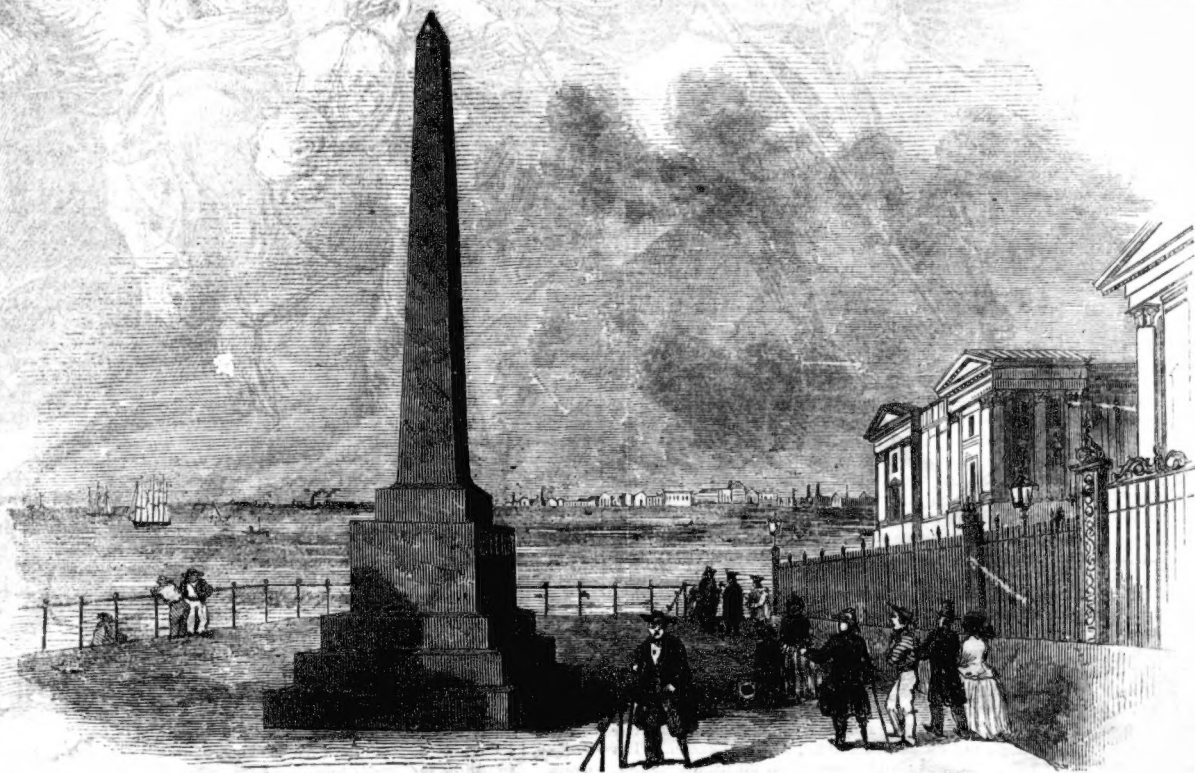
THE BASHI-BAZOUKS WANTED AT KERTCH.

ACCORDING to statements which have appeared in the Constantinople papers, the Anglo-Turkish Contingent at Kertch is closely pressed by the Russian General Wrangel. Some trifling engagements are even reported to have occurred between the advanced posts of the two forces; and it is stated that General Vivian considered his position so seriously menaced that he sent to Balaklava for a reinforcement of cavalry. The general, however, being in the service of the East India Company, and, as such, not authorised to command troops of the royal army, General Simpson is reported to have refused to comply with his request, whereupon the steamer despatched from Kertch immediately started for Constantinople to bring up the cavalry of the English Contingent.

Letters from the Dardanelles, dated a month ago, announced that the Bashi-Bazouks were even then on the move, the destination, however, being Shumla, distant 185 miles. The force was about 4,500 strong, including 100 sick. All the necessary arrangements for provisioning the force during this long march had already been made, but whether counter-orders had arrived, requiring the troops to embark for Kertch ere they were too far on their march, is not at present known.

The Bashi-Bazouks really form an imposing force. It is not often that from 4,000 to 5,000 cavalry can be seen together; and in the reviews of the whole force and of the separate regiments, they made a very respectable appearance. Whether they will be of much use before the enemy, is a question which experience alone can decide. The officers seem very confident, provided they are successful in the first encounter, however trivial the affair may be; but they admit that if they are discouraged by some unlucky mishap at first, some of the regiments will disappear spontaneously. In those regiments where the officers speak the language of the men, more confidence is felt in the behaviour of the latter.

At the time the force was encamped within ten miles' distance of the hospital at Renkioi, the officials took good care to adopt the needful precautions against such turbulent neighbours. Their frequent visits were undoubtedly of dishonest intent, but no fears were entertained for the security of the hospital, an ample force being always present to resist any aggression. One evening about 130 deserters rode from the Bashi-Bazouk camp towards Renkioi. They first plundered a small farm and a mill, and thence rode through the hospital, laden with sheep, fowls, &c., crying out, "English no bono!" They rode up to the village, with the intention of



MONUMENT TO LIEUT. BELLOC ON THE ESPLANADE IN FRONT OF GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

burning Mr. Calvert's country-house, generally occupied by some ladies; but nightfall having come on before their arrival, being ignorant of the place, and fearing an ambuscade, they bivouacked in the neighbourhood. A small number went into the street and made inquiries for the house, but were judiciously shown a large stable built for the Land Transport Corps. Here they obtained refreshment. The next morning they rode on to the plain of Troy, plundered Mr. Calvert's farm and ill-used the servants. Two of the marauders, who returned after the band had ridden off, got well beaten and punished by the farm servants, and one of them subsequently became a patient in the hospital. Some time afterwards, thirty or forty rode into the hospital encampment, where, owing to proper precautions, they found themselves received by above a hundred armed men, for the workmen had during this period their weapons always close at hand, and spies were set on the surrounding hills. Dr. Parkes, the hospital superintendent, judiciously avoided a conflict, and accepted an explanation of their intention, namely, "that they were en route to look for deserters." All remained quiet after their departure till recently, when a few small parties were found prowling about at night, obviously for plunder. Sentries were placed beyond the line of buildings, and these little nocturnal interruptions, of which there were several, quite ceased. An excellent moral effect was produced by the sentries firing into a knot of eight, who had dismounted, tied up their horses, and were creeping towards the stables, to select such animals as suited their taste. They returned the fire with their pistols, but very soon vanished. A feeling of perfect security now prevails, as the ladies ride about the country as freely and as late as if in an English county.

FINAL CLOSE OF THE BALTIC CAMPAIGN.

ALL naval operations in the Baltic may now be considered as finally closed for this season. By the latest accounts received, we learn that the frost had set in, and that all the large ships of the allied squadrons, after being employed for a period of six months in the Gulf of Finland, were at anchor in the bay of Kiel. In that safe retreat the greatest animation prevailed on the 16th ult., in consequence of the arrival of the English line-of-battle ship the *Duke of Wellington*, on board of which Admiral Dundas had his flag, and of the two French liners *Duquesne* and *Tonville*, with Rear-Admiral Pennaud and the staff of the French squadron. On the same day, the three English ships of the line, the *Nile*, *Royal George*, and *James Watt*; two corvettes—the *Lightning* and *Firefly*; the steam transport *Royal Adelaide*, and two French liners, were also anchored in the port, where the *Orion*, the last of the English ships remaining in the Baltic, was hourly expected. The French corvette, *D'Assas*, was ordered by Rear-Admiral Pennaud to stop at the Island of Gohland, and place herself at the disposal of General Canrobert, Extraordinary Envoy to Stockholm. It was then unknown whether or not Admirals Dundas and Pennaud intended to await at Kiel the arrival of the rest of the fleet. A mail service had been organised for the exchange of letters and despatches between the fleet and England. So far, nothing appears to have been decided with regard to the wintering of a portion of the allied squadrons in a Danish or Swedish harbour.

The accompanying engraving represents the departure from the Nargen Roads on the 5th ult., of Admiral Seymour in the *Erasmus*, accompanied by the *James Watt* and *Colossus*, for Kiel. The town of Revel is seen in the distance on the left, and the Island of Nargen on the right, while the remainder of the fleet lie at anchor between these two places. A correspondent writing on the day after their departure, says:—

"The appearance of the country around this has in one night been subjected to a perfect transformation, and from its autumnal hue has assumed the garb of winter, and a thick coating of snow covers the Island of Nargen and the opposite shores of Revel, presenting a scene similar to that witnessed by some of us in the Arctic regions. Our blue jackets have been engaged in the novel and exciting task of clearing the deck of its coating of snow, the fall of which having for a time rendered all exercise aloft out of the question.

"The air is very cold, and heavy falls of snow have continued during the day. We may in consequence expect a speedy termination to our cruise, as it would be madness to incur such risk as we now are exposed to, without any adequate advantage to be derived from it. If we deem it expedient to withdraw from these waters, it is evident the more timid navigators of the enemy's vessels will not venture out of their winter quarters; and even if such a step were attempted, our flying squadron, consisting of some of the finest screw frigates in the world, would at any time be a match for, if not superior to, any force the enemy may have disposable at this season of the year."

Kiel, Nov. 20.—The *Orion* arrived here this morning, and there is now no longer any of the ships of the line belonging to the Allied fleets in any part of the upper portion of the Baltic. Capt. Erskine has followed his instructions, and left that anchorage on the 17th, but although there had then been some falls of snow, there were no indications of ice.

The *Harrier* returns to the blockading squadron to-morrow, and it is to be hoped that she does not carry orders for their recall also. The strictest secrecy is properly observed, and injunctions have been given to discontinue all communications to the press, which, if necessary at all, would certainly have been more so at the commencement than at the close of the campaign.

The naval force stationed at Kiel mounts nearly 1,000 guns, and has still on board an immense quantity of war material, projectiles, and Congreve rockets, which were not used during the last campaign. The fleet is supplied with provisions by contractors residing at Kiel, who daily furnish 10,568 rations. This will give an idea of the number of sailors and marines on board the squadron.

Kiel, Nov. 27.—Admiral Dundas has received orders to return to England. The *Royal George*, *Nile*, and *Colossus* have left.

THE BELLOT MONUMENT.

OUR readers will not fail to sympathise with the tribute of public respect which has just been paid to the memory of Lieutenant Bellot—the young, brave, and adventurous officer of the French navy who perished during the last Arctic expedition. The subscription, which was opened two years ago, and recently closed, amounted to upwards of £2,200, a fourth part of which has been expended in the erection of a monument, while the remainder has been divided among the five youthful sisters of the deceased hero.

When the Royal Geographical Society held their first meeting this season, Sir R. Murchison, who had acted as chairman at the meetings of Lieutenant Bellot's admirers, after announcing the erection of this handsome and appropriate memorial, explained that the site which had been obtained for the monument, through the goodwill of the Lords of the Admiralty and the Commissioners and Governor of Greenwich Hospital, was the quay of that great naval establishment, than which no position could have been selected more worthy of the occasion or more honourable to the memory of the gallant young French volunteer, who had twice risked his life in the search after Franklin. The monument, of which we now present an engraving, is an obelisk, about thirty-five feet high, of red granite, designed by Mr. Philip Hardwick, R.A., and executed by Messrs. McDonald, of Aberdeen, bearing on its base in large letters the word "Bellot," both on the side facing the Thames and on that which is presented to the western quadrangle of the Royal Hospital.

Joseph René Bellot was a native of Paris, and first saw the light in March, 1826, his father being by trade a farrier and blacksmith. When Bellot had reached the age of five, his father removed from the French capital to Rochefort, and the embryo hero was educated in that maritime town. In his sixteenth year, Bellot was placed at the naval school of Rochefort, and soon afterwards entered upon his professional career.

From a boy, Bellot was remarkable for sense of duty, sweetness of temper, and nobility of soul; and, as time passed on, these high and generous qualities not only endeared him to his friends, but gave him a strong hold on the hearts of all with whom he shared peril and fatigue.

The conduct and career of Lieutenant Bellot in connection with our Arctic expeditions in search of Sir John Franklin, are well known. His own diary, recently published, and read by many with breathless interest, furnishes, of course, the best narrative of his adventures and enterprises,

and the story becomes more and more enchanting as it proceeds. "So often," says a contemporary, "as the Golden Book of Modern Travel comes to be made up, one of its best and brightest pages must be reserved for Joseph René Bellot; a name rarely, in any age, has love of adventure been ennobled by higher motives and more unselfish feelings than those which stirred the young French adventurer. The nationality of Bellot, too,—his gaiety as well as his goodness,—makes his journal peculiarly engaging. To indomitable courage and indefatigable perseverance, were added the charms of lightness of heart and poetry of fancy. He seems to have been as able to laugh and make laugh—to dance when a young Oradian Miss was to be found by way of partner—to read Byron—to think of Scott, and to hear about Shakespeare, as if he had been merely one of those Parisian carpet-travellers, who imagine adventures in foreign lands, while he lounges homewards to his *cabaret*, cigar in mouth, from the *Jardin Mabille* or the *Parc d'Asnières*—as if he had not been a real hero in the hour of danger, hopeful and calm when death was upon him."

A letter, written by Lieut. Bellot to his family in September, 1853, when on the eve of starting on a dangerous expedition, exhibits, in a strong light, his characteristic courage and generosity:—

"My dear and excellent Friends,—If you receive this letter I shall have ceased to exist, but shall have quitted life in the performance of a mission of peril and honour. You will see in my Journal, which you will find among my effects, that our captain and four men were necessarily left behind in the ice to save the rest; so, after effecting that, we were compelled to go to the assistance of these worthy fellows. Possibly I had no right to run such a risk, knowing how necessary I am to you in every way; but death may probably draw upon the different members of my family the consideration of men, and the blessings of Heaven.—Farewell! to meet again above, if not below. Have faith and courage. God bless you."

"J. BELLOT."

ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES.

THE object of the new West Indian squadron, says the "New York Herald," is not to protect Ireland; it is to watch this country. There are four subjects of pending dispute between the United States and Great Britain—all relate to American territory alone. The same paper goes on to state that there are differences between the two Cabinets, with regard to Cuba, to St. Domingo, to Honduras, and to the Sound Dues question:—

"In view of all these contingencies, the presence of a British fleet in the West Indian Islands would be useful to England, and might operate as a check on the Administration of this country. There are peculiar reasons why it might be serviceable at present. The Presidential election is at hand—the reckless character of the President is well enough understood in England for the supposition to exist that if any opportunity offered he would endeavour to repeat the Grey Town infamy in the hope of making capital. From so unsafe a man as Mr. Pierce—from one who has so little to lose and everything to gain from the contingencies of a general row, anything may certainly be expected. It would not be a matter of surprise if we heard some day that he had fitted out an official filibustering expedition against Cuba, or bombarded and seized St. Thomas, or sent down half-a-dozen ships to help or capture Kinney or Walker on the Mosquito shore."

It is likely enough that St. Thomas would be the point aimed at by the Administration, if trouble arose between Denmark and this country; but if three or four ships lay there, Mr. Pierce would no more venture to attack it, than he would dare to own the Scarlett Letter. These, depend upon it, are the real reasons for the equipment of the new British fleet. It is a watch on the folly of President Pierce, and the move of Great Britain for our next Presidential election."

WHAT IS THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE SYSTEM?

IN 1853, the Act passed (16 and 17 Vic., cap. 90) which now regulates the law on this subject, and first introduced the ticket-of-leave system into the penal jurisprudence, not of the British Empire (for it had a ready existence in Australia), but of the United Kingdom.

The substance of the Act is this:—All convicted persons who would have been liable, before the Act passed, to transportation for life, or for any period beyond fourteen years—are liable to be (but need not necessarily be) transported still. No person, who, before the Act passed, would have been liable to a sentence of less than fourteen years' transportation, can, since that time, be transported at all; but, instead of transportation, he is to be sentenced to what the Act terms *Penal Servitude* for terms of imprisonment varying in duration according to the different periods of time for which he might, under the former system, have been transported, but in no case equalling those periods in length. *Penal servitude*, as established by the Act, is imprisonment, with—as in ordinary cases—an important addition, which makes the peculiar feature of the new Act, and constitutes the ticket-of-leave system, as far as it is defined by the Legislature. The clauses introducing this system—the ninth, tenth, and eleventh of the Act—respectively empower her Majesty, by "writing, under the hand and seal of one of her principal Secretaries of State," in all cases where a convict shall be under sentence, either of penal servitude or of transportation, whether the latter sentence shall have been passed before or since the Act, to grant such convict "a license to be at large in any part of the United Kingdom," on such conditions and for such portions of his term of transportation or imprisonment as to her Majesty may seem fit. The tenth clause declares that the convict, after the license is so granted to him, shall be at liberty to remain at large till it is revoked. The eleventh section provides, that "if it shall please her Majesty to revoke any such license, the Secretary of State, by warrant under his hand and seal, shall signify to one of the police magistrates of the metropolis that the license is revoked, and the magistrates is then to issue a second warrant for the apprehension of the convict, who, on being brought before him, is, by virtue of a third warrant, to be recommitted to the prison from which he was released by the license, there to undergo the remainder of his sentence. The certificate on which the license is printed is called the *ticket of leave*, and as far as it depends on positive enactment is this: in all cases where a convict is sentenced either to transportation or penal servitude, the Crown, for any reasons it deems sufficient, may grant the convict a license to be at large—or, in popular language, a ticket of leave; and that license the Crown may revoke at its own will and pleasure, and, without the commission of any fresh offence, or the necessity of any legal investigation, may cause the recommittal of the ticket-of-leave man on the warrant of the police magistrate.

It will be observed that the Act empowers her Majesty to grant the ticket of leave, without attempting to define or limit the conditions under which such power is to be exercised. The Legislature has not attempted to lay down any definite test by which to ascertain the fitness of the convict to receive a ticket of leave; and the practice in this respect is somewhat unfixed and indefinite. By the Act, the license may be revoked, and the ticket-of-leave man be recommitted at the mere pleasure of the Crown, and on the simple warrant of the magistrate, without the necessity of any fresh investigation or the proof of any fresh substantive offence. To the same purpose is the condition set forth on the printed ticket of leave, viz.:—

"To produce a forfeiture of the license, it is by no means necessary that the holder should be convicted of any new offence. If he associates with notoriously bad characters, leads an idle and dissolute life, or has no visible means of obtaining an honest livelihood, &c., it will be assumed that he is about to relapse into crime, and he will be at once apprehended, and recommitted to prison under his original sentence."

Yet notwithstanding this, the instances are very rare in which a ticket-of-leave man is recommitted, except upon legal proof before the ordinary tribunals of some fresh substantive offence. Such are the principal points to be noticed as to the practical working of the ticket-of-leave system.

THE KING OF SARDINIA AND THE EXILED ARCHBISHOP OF TURIN.

THE "Patrie" says that the following incident occurred at the dinner given to the King of Sardinia at Lyons:—"His Majesty had upon his right Cardinal de Bonald, and upon his left, Marshal Castellane. Towards the end of the repast his Majesty, turning towards the Cardinal, asked in a tone of extreme kindness after the health of Archbishop Franzoni (the exiled Archbishop of Turin). Cardinal de Bonald having replied that the climate of Lyons was not unfavourable to the illustrious prelate, added further, 'I shall not fail to inform Archbishop Franzoni of your Majesty's words.' He will be profoundly touched by this proof of the interest which you are so good as to take in him."

JENNY LIND ON VOCAL MUSIC.

THE following extracts from a private letter of Jenny Lind to a young lady, have been published in an American paper:—"If I might be permitted to offer a suggestion in regard to Miss M.—, it would be a recommendation to her not to go to Italy, as she has been advised by some friends to do. My humble opinion is, that the recently adopted method of Italian singing is not the most natural and healthy. The proof thereof is, that we see only a few of the singers in our days that know how to preserve their voice, having once been in Italy, and there acquiring the habit of forcing more sound out of their lungs than nature intended they should. I never was to Italy myself, from that very reason. After having heard all the modern Italian singers, I was well convinced that my voice never would have been able to preserve its natural elasticity and its character of high soprano, had I undertaken to have adopted the same forced style of singing as is now in vogue almost unavoidable in Italy by the frequent performance of Signor Verdi's operas. His music is the most dangerous for all singing artists, and will continue so to be until the artists themselves will better understand their own interests, as well as that of the beauty of the art of singing, and refuse to sacrifice themselves to a composer, who by no means understands the exquisite beauty of the real Italian singing, that cannot be surpassed by any other nation. Miss M.— will find both in London and in Paris masters fully qualified to instruct her in all that is deemed requisite; and in the former city now lives the most distinguished singing master, Mr. Emmanuel Garcia, who is, in my opinion, eminently qualified to understand and to develop her voice and talent. A year's residence in London and Paris will enable her to judge of the progress she has made, and also the propriety of spending six months or one year in Germany, the land of real music, in which the true artists can only acquire the genuine stamp of art. Germany offers perhaps less excellence for the singer, for the German language is very hard to pronounce, and often changes the character of the sound; for instance, the quality of tone in singing out the Italian word *dolore*, and the identical German word *schmerz*, will be found different in its result, and infinitely in favour of the form *r*. But to wish to become a good artist, with a good artistical conscience, and not know Germany and its musical masters, would indeed be as great a loss for the artist as it would be to the public, before whom we ought to wish to give a right impression. I know what Germany is to an artist, and, with all my veneration for the true Italian singing school, I really believe that, unless I had taken the German music as the groundwork, my knowledge of Italian singing would never have satisfied me, and my musical faculties would have been undeveloped and unfruitful. What I therefore wish most earnestly to impress upon Miss M.—'s mind is, that she should try to combine Italian song and German music, the one being as necessary as the other; that she should try to avoid false pathos, as the same law exists to its fullest extent, in art as in life; that she be true to herself, try to find out the beauty of truth, as well in the simplest song as in the most difficult airs, and the great secret will be hers—the most powerful protector against envy and malice will be on her side."

THE IMPOSTOR ALICE GREY.—Of all the extraordinary revelations which have been made known in connection with this woman, the following, which has just come to light, is perhaps the most startling. An account was published in the "Times" of November 1, 1854, of a "shocking outrage" which was committed upon a woman in the neighbourhood of Exeter on the night of the 29th of October. The circumstances, as then related, were these:—Very early on the morning of the 30th of October some fishermen, when off the coast near Powderham Castle, the seat of the Earl of Devon, heard piteous cries on shore. On putting in their boat they found a woman in a state of nudity, with the exception of a shift. They immediately took her to the house of Lord Devon's butler, and the policeman of the district having been sent for, she gave an account of how she came in the condition in which she was found. She alleged that her husband was a soldier in one of the regiments in the Crimea, and that she had come to Exeter on her way to her friends in the south of Devon, where she expected to be shortly confined. She remained in that city a little time with one of her relatives, and not having sufficient money to take her the whole distance by railway, she determined on walking the first eight miles to Starcross. It was while on this road that she said she was overtaken by two or three men, who used her violently, and who, having taken away the small sum of money she had about her, undressed her and left her naked on the beach, she being at that time pregnant. Her story excited great interest, and much sympathy was manifested. The constable, however, was determined to ascertain the truth of her statement, and he visited Exeter, but could find no such persons as those whom she had represented as her relatives. Efforts were, however, made to secure the men whom she had accused, and policemen were sent into various towns after them, but they did not succeed. The woman then took her departure, and nothing more was heard of her till the examination of Alice Grey at Wolverhampton, when the police officer of the Kenton district, near Exeter, wrote and obtained a daguerreotype likeness of that notorious character. It was then ascertained, beyond all doubt, that she was the same woman who was found naked on the beach.

NEW MORTAR RAFT.—There is at present building in Woolwich Dockyard, a new description of mortar raft, for use in naval warfare. Although the mortar-boats, built and fitted on the plan of Captain J. Roberts, in the spring of the present year, have been found to answer so far satisfactorily, yet the recoil occasioned by the firing of the mortars was so great as to cause a serious loss of time in steadying the vessel for a second elevation, and bringing the mortar to bear on the object of attack. This defect has given rise to the construction of the present description of raft, which, it is anticipated, will undergo no serious shock. The raft will be supported by four pontoons, fitted lengthwise, and which will also serve for the powder magazines, thus leaving the whole surface of the raft clear for the working of the mortar. It will be so constructed that it may be taken to pieces and put together in a very short time. The mortar bed, and the mode of slinging the mortar, will be similar to those fitted in the mortar-boats, the mortar itself being of the same weight as those already in use.

THE "PRESS" AND THE "PRESSE" ON THE RUSSIAN OVERTURES.—The London "Press" stated last week that the Court of St. Petersburg had communicated proposals of peace to the Emperor of the French, that the Emperor, in introducing them to the consideration of her Majesty's Government, had declared his opinion that the contemplated terms were satisfactory; that the spirit in which they were offered by Russia was sincere; and that a large party in the Cabinet had received these proposals by no means with disfavour. The Paris "Presse," however, thinks that its London namesake has been led into error when it affirms that Russia had offered such terms of peace to Napoleon as his Majesty had found acceptable, and recommended to the consideration of the British Government. The "Presse," alluding to the same extraordinary assertion, says:—"We are bound to state that no act has come to our knowledge of a nature to give the slightest probability to the statement of the 'Press.'"

THE CAMP AT SHORNCLIFFE.—The camp is now considered by the Government a permanent one; and considerable alterations are to be made, including stables for the accommodation of 700 horses, with a riding school. It is also intended to erect slaughter-houses, for the purpose of accustoming the men to kill their own meat when on campaign. There are many butchers in the several regiments. It is said there are nearly 4,000 men at Shorncliffe, who are being daily drilled. The men are in excellent health. The damage done by the 1st Regiment of Jagers, during their stay in the camp, has been estimated over £300; blankets, camp equipments, and requisites being destroyed through mere wantonness. An order was received on Friday week that the sum of £500 be deducted from the pay of the regiment.

RUSSIAN DOINGS AT NICOLAEFF.—General Toulouch conducts the engineering department. The flotilla of 500 gun-boats, which is being built for the defence of the Bug, is to be manned by the sailors who lately played such a conspicuous part at Sebastopol. On their arrival at Nicolaeff they were greeted by the inhabitants in a way which surpasses all description. The Emperor himself addressed them in a speech which coincided as follows:—"By your efforts Sebastopol was made what it was, the graveyard of the flower of Europe's best armies! Show to the world that you alone can construct a second Sebastopol out of a small fishing village! Most of the inhabitants of Nicolaeff have left their homes, the Government having provided them with money for the defrayal of their travelling expenses into the interior of the country."

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

VERY nearly five months after the occurrence, the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the alleged misconduct of the police on the 1st of July last, issue their report. It has been published in all the daily papers, and the "Times," which at one time was red-hot on the subject, thought it necessary to give us last week a feeble little leading article upon it; but I think the truth is that the "Times" has not yet recovered the hoax played upon them a few weeks since, when a letter, supposed to be from Superintendent Hughes, was printed in their columns, and the public had forgotten all about the matter. The three Recorders appear to have done their duty zealously and conscientiously. Superintendent Hughes will be rebuked; the three most vicious policemen dismissed; and, above all, the question of refusing or accepting bail will be thoroughly entered into, and the cells for night-confinement will henceforth be properly inspected and ventilated. Long before this inquiry, I had heard awful stories of these cells, and I have been assured, on good authority, that many deaths could be traced to one night's confinement in them. The question of Public versus Police, is now at an end; let us trust it will be long before it is again mooted.

If the receptions given to various members of Parliament who come forward to their constituents, and make long, warlike, and patriotic speeches, are to be taken as evidences of the public feeling, then truly is the war a most popular one, despite the quarrel at a shilling, and sugar at eightpence a pound. This week Mr. W. J. Fox, the member for Oldham, one of the shrewdest men in the House, has been cheered to the echo for declaring that through the people of Oldham were near to Manchester (which had been thrown out as a taunt and as a reason why they should be peace-makers), they were nearer yet to freedom of thought and independence of mind; and when he called upon the meeting to declare themselves spontaneously, decidedly, and unreservedly in favour of such a peace as war alone could win, a successful war against the great enemy and robber of Europe, the Oldhamites gave vent to such tremendous expressions of delight that the reporters could scarcely find words big enough to describe them. The opposition have also been in the field, Mr. Richards, the Secretary to the Peace Society having summoned meetings at Stroud and Cardiff, in both of which places he had the satisfaction of creating the most dreadful uproar, and of finally being morally kicked out of the room.

Lord Palmerston, finding that, though he is most popular with the public, nearly all the debating talent of the House of Commons will be arrayed against him, has been strengthening his Cabinet by the addition of two men of good business-like habits and excellent common sense.—I speak of Mr. Labouchere and Mr. Matthew Talbot Baines, the latter of whom is worthy of a more important post than that which has devolved upon him. He is a thorough man of business, eminently practical, frank and straightforward, and his opinions on the vigorous prosecution of the war are fully declared in his address to his constituents at Leeds. The other new appointments do not call for any particular notice. I see Lord Stanley of Alderley has elbowed his way into the Cabinet at last. He is a sharp, active, bustling man, good at departmental duties, but hated at the Board of Trade for his crotchety notions and brusque manners, treating all with whom he is brought into contact in that *de haut en bas* style, which is much affected by many red tapists. Lord Harrowby undertakes the onerous charge of the Privy Seal, vacated by that very precocious young Rufus, the Duke of Argyll, who goes to the Post Office. This last appointment has delighted the small wits of the town, who rush about, saying, that "that Post which his Grace has so long provided for others, he has now obtained for himself. God bless the Duke of Argyll!"

Paris once more contains a kingly guest, and our warm-hearted ally, Victor Emmanuel, surrounded by those men who represent the progress of civil and religious liberty in his dominions, is staying with Louis Napoleon, and, doubtless, discussing many measures which will see the light in the early days of 1856. In this country his arrival is almost hourly expected, and he will be received, I have no doubt, with that welcome which is certainly his due. Whether we are to have new allies in the sovereigns of Sweden and Denmark, seems as yet undecided. Should these Powers determine to act in concert with France, England, and Sardinia, all Russia's chances must surely be at an end, and Austria and Prussia must at once and definitively declare their intentions. The Emperor of Austria, meanwhile, has just issued an edict, which declares the Roman Catholic religion to be for ever established in the Austrian empire, over which the Pope has seen unlimited religious sway. And this is the young man whose accession to the Imperial throne was hailed with such delight by the advocates of reform, and the friends of civil and religious liberty!

That magniloquent orator and noble grammarian, Sir Francis Graham Moon, has just received a slight rubbing-down at the hands of his fellow-citizens. It seems that, at the expiration of the year of office, it is customary to present the ex-Lord Mayor with a vote of thanks for his conduct, which is engraved on vellum, and of course hung up in the back parlour for the edification of the family; but on this occasion, the vote was only carried by a majority of one, and his ex-Lordship severely taken to task for having neglected his duties and gone on pleasure excursions up the river, leaving a *locum tenens* to attend to those who had business with him. I can't help thinking that perhaps a little jealousy was the cause of this application of lunar caustic! The other deputies and common-councilmen envied Moon his baronetcy, perhaps even his eloquence—who can tell?

Do you know, Sir, what is a "national disgrace"? The Nelson statue, perhaps, you think? or wife-beating, drunkenness in the British Army, want of care for our troops abroad, want of education for our children at home? No, Sir, none of these! The omnibus proprietors of London have just declared that it would be a "national disgrace," if they were to sell their filthy caravans to a French company, who would provide us with commodious vehicles, and establish an excellent system for working them!

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

CHRISTMAS GIFT BOOKS.—THACKERAY IN AMERICA.

ALTHOUGH Christmas weather is now regarded as a myth fondly cherished by old poets and writers, but understood in these degenerate days by Mr. Dickens alone; although we no longer get "tipped" on Christmas Day, nor "draw characters" on Twelfth Night; and although the grim tyrant, Death, has stepped into that happy circle where our Christmas festivities were wont to be passed, and removed so many of its members, that the annual gathering no longer takes place, we are yet reminded of the advent of the season by the publication of those beautifully-bound and elegantly got-up volumes which are to do duty on our drawing-room tables during the remainder of the year. Foremost among these comes "The Keepsake" (Bogue), gorgeous in crimson and gold, with its very pretty pictures engraved in Mr. Heath's best manner, its staunch little band of professional writers, and its list of amateur contributions by people possessing those wondrous riddles which are never heard of elsewhere. Among the professionals are Mrs. S. C. Hall, Robert Browning, Calder Campbell, Barry Cornwall, R. F. Chorley, Albert Smith, Frank Smedley, Edmund Yates, and W. P. Hale. The book abounds in verses, the best of which are Barry Cornwall's story, called

THE RIVER.

The river rushes, the river falls,
The sparkling, bounding, breathless river;
To moors and rocks and heights it calls,
And runs its glittering course for ever.

It sings its merriest morning song,
Its psalm at noon, its hymn at even,
"Thanks! thanks!" for ever to it belong,
Some blessings of a bounteous Heaven.

Perhaps it owns some (unknown) boon,
Such joy as tends the herb and flower;
Opening the lily's heart in June,
Yielding the rose its crimson dower.

Such life as in the mountain pine,
Confronts the storm, outlasts the thunder;
Such life, such strength, perhaps are thine,
Oh, river, who dost wake no wonder.

Because, like all things good and great,
Thou minglest with each joy and sorrow;
And each day comest without state,
Bidding the thankless world, Good morrow!

Of the other versifiers, Calder Campbell has a sonnet, Edmund Yates an episode of brigand life, and Messrs. Smedley and Hale contribute some pretty love stanzas. Mr. Chorley has an elegant little poem called "The Gleam of the Spell," the metre of which reminds one of Mrs. Barrett Browning's "Bertha in the Lane;" and Robert Browning has a quaint rhyme called "Ben Karshook's Wisdom." Mr. Albert Smith contributes a wonderful photograph of London society, which he calls "Bedfordia." Among the amateurs, a neophyte, Mr. W. F. Synge, bears away the palm by the vivacity with which, in a capital imitation of Charles Lever's style, he tells the story of the Amateur pantomime played this spring before the Queen. Miss Power has a pleasant story, "Percy Leigh's Wooing;" and Mr. Francis Bennoch some spirited stanzas on the portrait of the Duchess of Argyll. The two clerical contributors to the volume, the Rev. Henry Thompson and the Rev. Octavius Freire Owen, both of whom conspicuously proclaim "M.A." attached to their names, certainly do not shine. I must also protest against a translation into French of "Auld Robin Gray," by the Chevalier de Chatelein, which utterly upsets one's old sentimental notions of the ballad. Fancy—

"And auld Robin Gray cam a' courtin' to me,"

politely rendered into

"Et le vieux Robin Gray vint qui me dit m'aimer."

The "Court Album" (Bogue) for 1856, contains the usual amount of female loveliness, accompanied by those wonderful biographies which, I am inclined to believe, are for the most part apocryphal. Among the portraits this year are those of Lady Malmesbury, the Countess of Durham (who certainly does not look like the mother of the celebrated twins with the jewelled armlets), Lady Louisa Hamilton, Hon. Magdalen Montagu, Hon. Letitia Vivian, Miss Ashworth, &c.

But foremost of all the gift-books of this year, and almost before my I have seen, I place "The Rhine," a description of that glorious river from Rotterdam to Mayence, by Henry Mayhew, with splendid illustrations by Birket Foster. Mr. Foster's name is now well known throughout England as the illustrator of many of Longfellow's works, and of recent editions of Gray's "Elegy," and Campbell's "Pleasures of Hope." In this new work he has surpassed his former efforts, and Mr. Mayhew's letterpress is just what was required, not a mere sketchy description of each plate, but a thorough history of each town, and vivid sketches of the peculiar habits of the Rhinelanders generally. Mr. Mayhew shows also an intimate acquaintance with the legendary lore of the locality, and has evidently entered into his subject *con amore*. Author and artist both being first-class in their respective lines, they have between them produced a volume which will not only gratify the eye for a season, but which will often be referred to by the thousands who make the Rhine their autumnal excursion, and may safely be taken as a most accurate pen and pencil description of the country of which it treats.

From America we have news of Mr. Thackeray's first lecture, the subject of which was "George the First." Whether the unpleasant feelings existing between the press of the two countries has soured the tempers of the critics, I know not; but the majority of the New York press is decidedly condemnatory, some of the papers openly abusing the lecture, while the others "damn with faint applause." Our American brothers of the goosequill are a strange lot, and I dare say that Thackeray's request that his lecture should not be reported, has had something to do with this vindictiveness. At all events, I shall wait for more full reports before enlarging on the topic to your readers.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

THE "Athenæum" theatrical critic is very much enraged at what he calls the desecration of Drury Lane Theatre, by the engagement of a Madame Labarrere, who has a troupe of trained lions, bears, dogs, &c., with which she goes through the usual evolutions. It may be very low, but it amused me on Monday night, and so I speak well of the performance. The lady is a small, thin person, possessed apparently of great *sang froid*, and the animals are tolerably docile. I didn't like to see her put her head into the beasts' mouths, but I was evidently in the minority, and most of the audience were much delighted. By-the-by, Mr. Smith announces this as Madame Labarrere's first appearance in Europe. I have a strong notion that I saw some one very like her a short time since at the Cirque Napoleon in Paris! But then, perhaps, our friend E. T. is not good at geography!

The Court theatricals commenced on Thursday week, when "The Rivals" was performed, with a strong cast. Mr. Bartley was Sir Anthony Absolute (why not Mr. Frank Matthews?), and Mr. Wigan, Captain Absolute; Harley, Acres; Keeley, David; and Hudson, Sir Lucius. The next performance will not take place until after Christmas.

Your readers will be sorry to hear that Mrs. Wigan has been dangerously ill. She has undergone a most severe operation, and is now happily recovering. A new farce is underlined at the Olympic.

Mr. Webster re-appears at the Adelphi on Monday, in "Janet Prisle."

Mr. Mark Lemon is engaged on the Adelphi Christmas piece.

The old comedy, "Every One has his Faults," has been revived at the Princesses's, about which I shall write to you next week.

Mr. Albert Smith's "Mont Blanc" re-opens on Monday next.

THE HUNE TESTIMONIAL.—At a meeting, held on Tuesday last, at Badley's Hotel, under the presidency of Mr. Roebuck, M.P., a resolution was agreed to, requesting the executive committee to put themselves in communication with the various mechanics' institutions of the kingdom, with a view to the organisation of local committees in connection with the above memorial. A subscription was entered into, and arrangements made for holding a large meeting in the Marylebone Court House, over which Sir B. Hall has promised to preside.

GREAT REDUCTION IN THE PRICE OF SUGARS.—Many families having, in consequence of the high prices charged for sugar, either refrained from the use of that article, or limited its consumption to the smallest possible quantity, the retail grocers throughout the metropolis reduced the prices fully three-halfpence in the pound, on Tuesday last. Inferior Brazil sugar, that was selling at 7d. per lb., can now be obtained at 5½d., and West India sugar of the best quality can be had at from 6d. to 6½d., refined lump at 7d. to 7½d., and crystallized Demerara at 7d. per lb.

CURIOUS ACCIDENT.—A few days ago, on the Newcastle-under-Lyne branch of the North Staffordshire Railway, a platelayer employed on the line, was set to watch. Instead of doing so, he lay down on an upturned barrow placed across the rails a few yards within the tunnel, and fell asleep. In that condition, a train, going at a rapid rate, and the noise of which failed to arouse him from his slumbers, found him. Fortunately, however, the engine struck the barrow, and threw it and its slumbering occupant completely off the line. The man was severely bruised, but not seriously injured. His escape from being cut to pieces seems miraculous.

THE PROPRIETOR OF A SCOTCH NEWSPAPER was recently asked by one of his subscribers what allowance he would make if the subscriber were to discontinue the paper and take in the placard only, which was issued with it. The proprietor, on asking the reason for this unusual request, was informed that there was always a vast deal more news in the placard than could be found in the paper itself.

THE POPE AND THE QUEEN OF SPAIN.—It appears that although the official relations between the Holy See and the Spanish Government are not friendly, those between the Pope and the Queen of Spain are exceedingly amicable. It may be remembered that at the beginning of last year, her Majesty sent to Pius IX. a magnificent tiara enriched with diamonds; this year she has sent to his Holiness a celebrated Murillo, representing the marriage of Saint Catherine, which hung in her bedroom, and to which she was in the habit of paying her evening devotions. The above picture was accompanied by another by the same great master, representing the Prodigal Son. The Pope has had them both splendidly framed and placed in the museum of the Vatican, with an inscription mentioning the donor.

A KISS AND A BLOW.—We soldiers consider it a disgraceful thing to ill-treat the ladies, and I will tell you one little anecdote on the subject. There was in an Irish Dragoon regiment one Pat Conolly, and he was brought to the Colonel for having knocked down a publican. "Why," said the Colonel, "the publican is a very quiet man, how is this?" "Oh, yes, your honour," said Pat, "I never had an ill-word with him." "Then why," said the Colonel, "did you knock him down?" "I will tell your honour," replied Pat, "how that was. You see Biddy was in the kitchen, and I gave her a kiss, upon which she up with her hand and gives me a box of the ear that would have felled an ox. Now, your honour, what was I to do? As an Irishman I could not put up with a blow, and as a soldier I could not strike a woman, and so I knocked down the publican."—Earl of Albemarle on Harvest Homes.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE MANUFACTURING POPULATION AND THE WAR.—During the past week two important demonstrations have been made in favour of a "vigorous prosecution of the war." The one, which took place at Glasgow on the 23rd ult., in the shape of a soiree, was of the most enthusiastic character, and intended to supplement the grand banquet of six weeks ago; and the other at Oldham, on Saturday last, on the occasion of the visit of Mr. W. J. Fox, M.P., one of the representatives of the Borough, when there were about 2,000 persons present to listen to that gentleman's address, "heartily sympathising" with the prosecution of the war "at any price."

LORD STANLEY ON RURAL LIBRARIES.—Lord Stanley has proposed a scheme of rural education for the county of Norfolk. He suggests the establishment of five principal or central libraries, from which smaller institutions should be supplied. "Beginning from the west," he writes, "Lynn occurs as the first suitable point; and here, in fact, the work has been done. Norwich and Yarmouth should be provided with depôts of the same kind; and there, at least, neither means nor will are likely to be wanting. Fakenham towards the north, and Thetford on our southern boundary, might, with a proper organisation, supply the intervening districts. I have often stated my belief that a collection of 5,000 volumes may be so chosen as to include nearly all that, for popular purposes, is valuable in English literature. The cost of books may be taken roughly at 4s. per volume, or five to the pound, which, allowing for expenses of furniture, would imply an outlay of £1,200 for each library, or £6,000 for the whole. When one considers what sums are recklessly wasted by the richer classes in this country on objects of mere selfish luxury or pleasure, it is difficult to imagine that such an amount would not be forthcoming, if only the importance of the end to be gained were once duly estimated." The Noble Lord then proceeds, in some little detail, to prove that libraries of this kind, once founded, would be self-supporting, by citing examples at Hatfield, in Hertfordshire, Lynn, and places in Lancashire. "Next, it may be demanded," he continues, "by what agency the benefit of libraries such as those I describe can be extended beyond the immediate vicinity of each? I answer, by the establishment, in every village, of small local reading rooms, each of which may be supplied with books from the nearest central depôt, paying for their use, and having also, if that be practicable, a limited stock of standard works in its own possession. Such a reading-room may be easily established wherever a school exists. All that is required is that some one person should make himself responsible for the due payment of the annual subscription and for the safe custody of the volumes issued. In the district immediately surrounding Lynn many parishes and villages are thus assisted, and there is no reason why the system should not be extended over the entire county."

THE NEW IRON MORTAR-BOAT.—The iron mortar-vessel launched from the building yard of Mr. John Laird, at the south end of the docks, Liverpool, the other day, is so constructed that when she has mortar, shell, crew, and every necessary appliance on board, she will only draw three feet of water. She will present very little bulk above the surface, and as she will be painted sea-green, it will be impossible for the enemy to distinguish her from their batteries, even when within range of their guns, except by the occasional puffs of smoke from each shell. She is of 100 tons' measurement, and is made of the best iron plates manufactured at the Mersey Forge. The expedition with which she was constructed, we believe, unprecedented. The order was received by Mr. Laird on the 23rd of October, the keel was laid down on the 25th of the same month, and on the 13th of November, just three weeks from the date of the order being received, she was launched in the river Mersey, all complete, with mortar-bed, masts, rigging, anchors, cable, sails, shell-room, accommodation for crew, &c. She left Liverpool for Portsmouth, in tow of the steam-tug Uncle Sam, on the day after she was launched, and arrived at Portsmouth on Thursday, having been delayed by being obliged to put into three ports, owing to the severity of the easterly winds. The vessel is strongly built of iron, with wooden decks; and the complicated nature of the work would have precluded the possibility of her completion in this short time, had not carpenters been employed working night and day. The iron plates, &c., were ordered from the Mersey Forge, from time to time, as required, and were generally delivered 12 hours from the time of specifications being sent in. This is the first English mortar-boat built of iron, and if the experiments immediately to be tried upon her answer the anticipations of the Admiralty officials, we may expect to hear of a large order being given for the construction of more upon the same principle. Mr. Laird is also constructing 14 wooden steam screw gun-boats, of 240 tons each, and about 60 horse-power. They will be similar in size and armament to the Lynx, Arrow, Viper, Snake, Beagle, and other boats which have become famous in the history of the naval operations of this war.

THE BIBLE BURNING IN IRELAND.—On Wednesday, last week, a memorial was presented to the Lord Justices of Ireland, complaining that the police constables, though witnessing the recent Bible burning at Kingstown, culpably neglected their duty. The memorial is signed by upwards of 400 residents of the parish. There is every confidence felt that Mr. Keogh will do his duty in the prosecutions which he has instituted against the Bible burners. A mass of evidence has been collected by his instructions to sustain the summons against Father Pedlerine.

EVICIONS IN IRELAND AND COLLISION WITH THE POLICE.—On the 23rd ult. a detachment of military, supported by about 150 of the police, and a number of bailiffs, proceeded to Dartfield, for the purpose of ejecting seven families. On the appearance of the military and police, the persons who were to be ejected made a show of resistance, and declared that they would not surrender possession of their holdings. Mr. Ryan, R.M., remonstrated, and advised them to give up quietly, as the law should be carried out at all hazards; the Sub-Sheriff also spoke to the same effect—but they replied that they would not yield except with their lives. After some further parley, the police charged with fixed bayonets, and several of the peasantry were wounded; one man, named Monaghan, received a deep bayonet wound in the groin, and is not expected to recover. The houses, seven in number, were then taken possession of, amidst the wailings of women and children, who formed a part of the inmates.

THE REV. DR. VAUGHAN.—Much of the excitement that prevailed amongst the inhabitants of Brixton at the late conduct of their vicar has been allayed by the removal of the Rev. Gentleman, with his family, to St. John's Wood. It is also alleged that Dr. Vaughan has resigned his living, and it appears very evident that under no circumstances will he be able to recommence his sacred duties in the same parish. The Rev. Doctor is represented to be very wealthy, his father, who was a banker at Bristol, having died a few years ago, and left him a fortune of, it is said, £60,000. At all events, he was quite independent of his living, and why he should have committed an act which he must have known would render him liable to transportation for life, for the trumpery gain of, at the utmost, £6 per annum, is truly marvellous. The grand jury were, on Tuesday last, engaged for several hours in investigating the charges preferred against Dr. Vaughan, and returned three true bills for felony. Subsequently, upon the application of Mr. Ballantine to the New Court, the trial was postponed until next session, the same bail as that entered into before the police magistrate being put in for the Rev. Defendant's appearance.

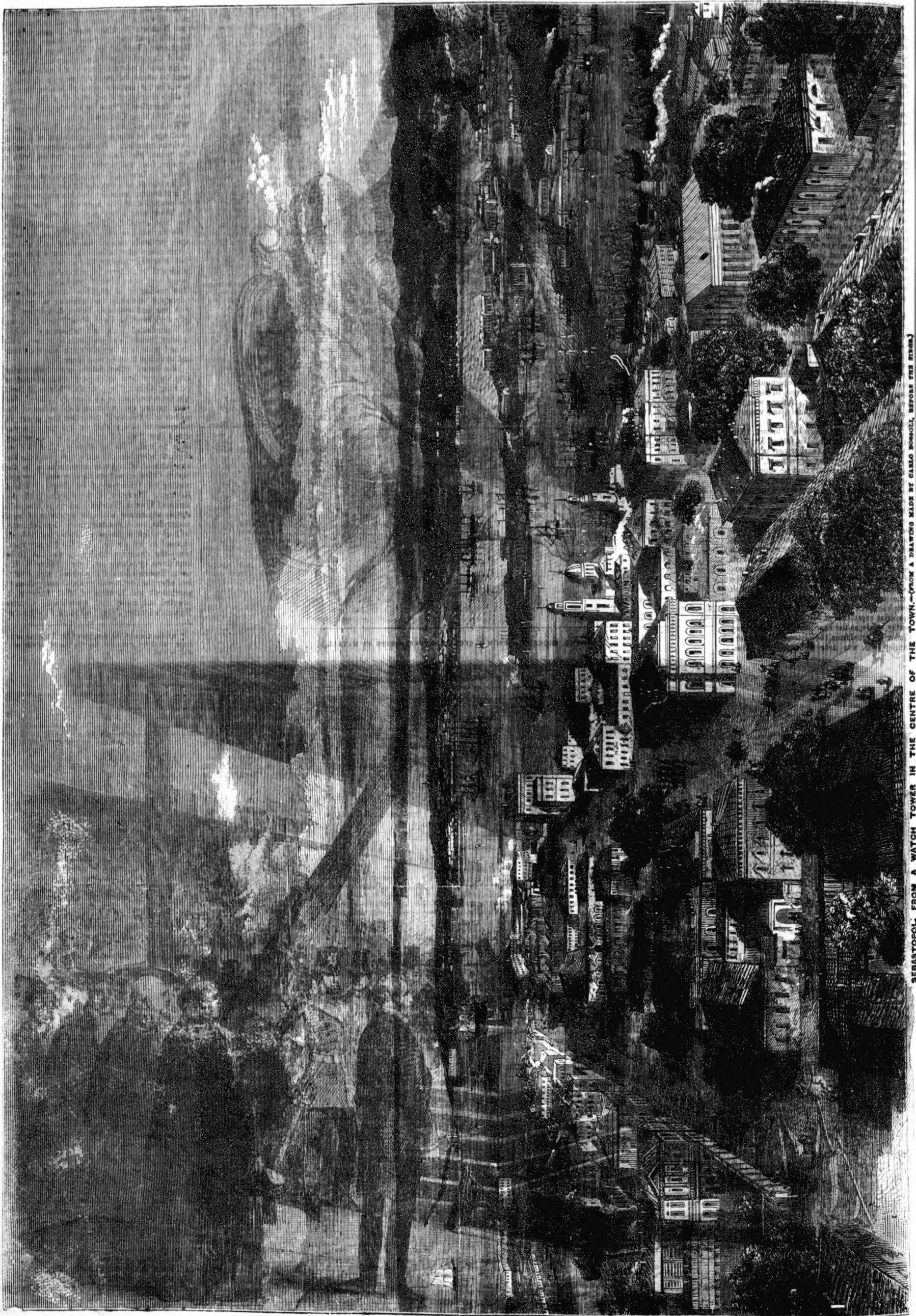
GENERAL VIEW OF SEBASTOPOL.

THE engraving on the next page represents a general view of Sebastopol, taken from a watch-tower in the centre of the town, previously to its siege by the allied armies. The highest building in front is the Library; on the right are the Cathedral and the Admiralty Tower, the Military Port, Fort St. Paul, the Dockyard, and part of the marine suburb; on the left, the Arillery Bay; and beyond the gulf, in the background, Fort Constantine, the Northern Fortress, and the Inkermann Lighthouses.

Sebastopol formed no unpleasant object to the gazing eye. The main street was particularly handsome, and owed its extreme cleanliness to large gangs of military prisoners who were perpetually employed in sweeping. In front of many of the houses, trees were growing, and some of them had arbours formed of vines. On a high point in the town stood the turret-shaped buildings containing the library, which, to a stranger, presented the appearance of an observatory. A broad and handsome flight of stairs, ornamented on either side by a sphinx, conducted to the inner rooms; and the interior was elegant. All sorts of ships were depicted in *bas relief* on the wall; and the reading-room was beautified by the model of a ship.

The Military Harbour, running through the centre of the city, was reserved for ships of war, and in the inner harbour were the hulks for convicts, employed in the fortifications. At the eastern side, near the top of the harbour, was the small port of Karabelma; and, on the north-eastern point, the cape and Port of St. Paul. On its western side, were the Cathedral, Armenian Church, public buildings, commercial depôts, and military hospital. In the background appears Fort Constantine, a very strong work, defending the entrance to the harbour, with 104 guns, in three tiers, casemated; and the Inkermann Lighthouse.

The population of Sebastopol was estimated at 40,000, including military and marine. It was, in fact, an immense garrison, and looked imposing, because many of the buildings were barracks and Government offices. New houses were springing up in all directions; and the public works were going on vigorously, when the criminal ambition of the late Czar brought the allied armies before its frowning walls.



SEBASTOPOL. FROM A WATCH TOWER IN THE CENTRE OF THE TOWN.—(FROM A DRAWING MADE BY CARLO BOSCHETTI, BEFORE THE SIEGE.)

MEMOIR OF CHARLES DICKENS.

The lives of men of genius, when happy, are ordinarily uneventful. It may, perhaps, be one of the reasons for the paucity of materials available for the life of him who was "not for an age but for all time," that our Shakespeare went through life a prosperous gentleman, that he had shares, and rents, and messuages, and tenements, and that he died at last in affluence, in his bed, in his own house, near the pleasant town he loved so well. But the most moving and most copious literary memoirs are merely records of miseries. The blindness of Milton, the weary life-struggle of Dryden, the deformity of Pope, the persecution of Defoe, and the melancholy of Swift; the stern woe of Dante, the heart-sickness of Petrarch, the despair of Butler; Tasso's fetters, Cervantes' neglect, Camoens' hospital pallet, Guilbert's starvation, and Chatterton's suicide—all these are bold and jutting headlands in the sea-scape of life—stern and rugged rocks, all beaten by the tempests of time, and seamed and furrowed by the salt waters of sorrow. These the painter can seize and transfer to canvas, giving force and variety to his picture. He can paint the surging billows and the angry sky; but what scope has he for display when the sea is smooth as glass, calm as a good man's bosom—when the bark glides placidly along—when the log of the mariner may be summed up in two words—Genius and Success?

These two words are really the summary of the career of the famous writer whose portrait graces our page. There are no moving accidents by flood or field in his life to tell; his life has been one of uniform industry and prosperity. Yet, as our readers must naturally be anxious to learn even the minutest particulars concerning one who possesses such remarkable talents, and has occupied for so long so conspicuous a position in society, we will proceed, to the best of our ability, to tell how Mr. Dickens won that fame he preserves so staunchly and wears so gently.

Charles Dickens was born in February, 1812, at Landport, Portsmouth. His father, Mr. John Dickens, had been, in the earlier part of his life, a clerk in the Navy Pay department, and his duties rendered it necessary that he should make frequent changes of residence from one naval dockyard to another—moving from Portsmouth to Plymouth, and from Portsmouth again to Sheerness and Chatham. The future novelist received his education in a school in or near Rochester; and it is to his youthful peregrinations in the county of Kent, and his Kentish schoolboy experiences, that we may ascribe much of the minute knowledge he displays in his writings of the topography and scenery of the county of "hops, apples, and pretty girls," and of the fondness he evinces for recurrence to Kentish scenes and Kentish people. "On revient toujours à ses premières amours." The memorable equestrian expedition of Mr. Pickwick (as noteworthy, surely, as the expedition of "Humphrey Clinker") started from the Mitre, at Rochester; Dingley Dell was near Cobham; the catas-



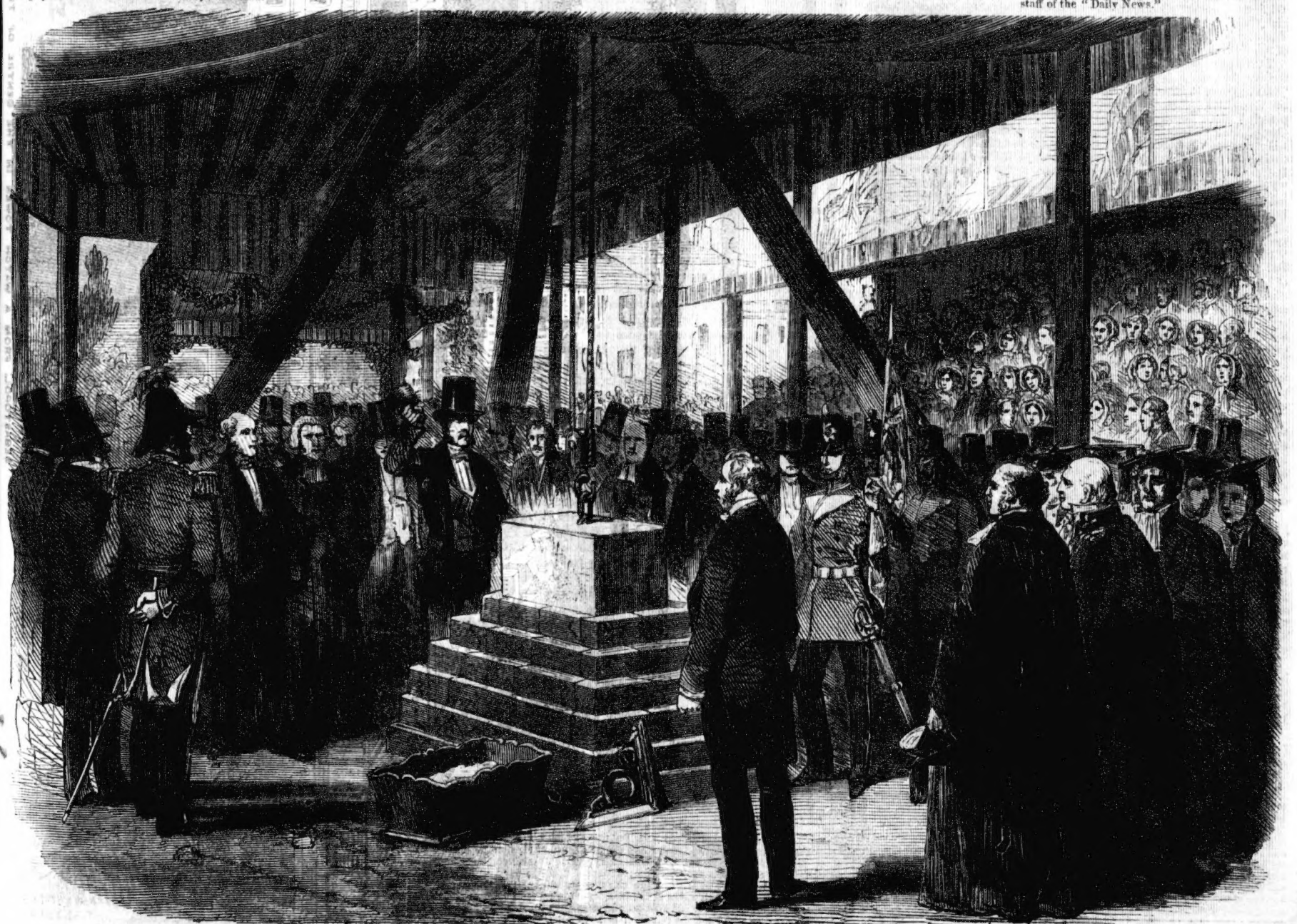
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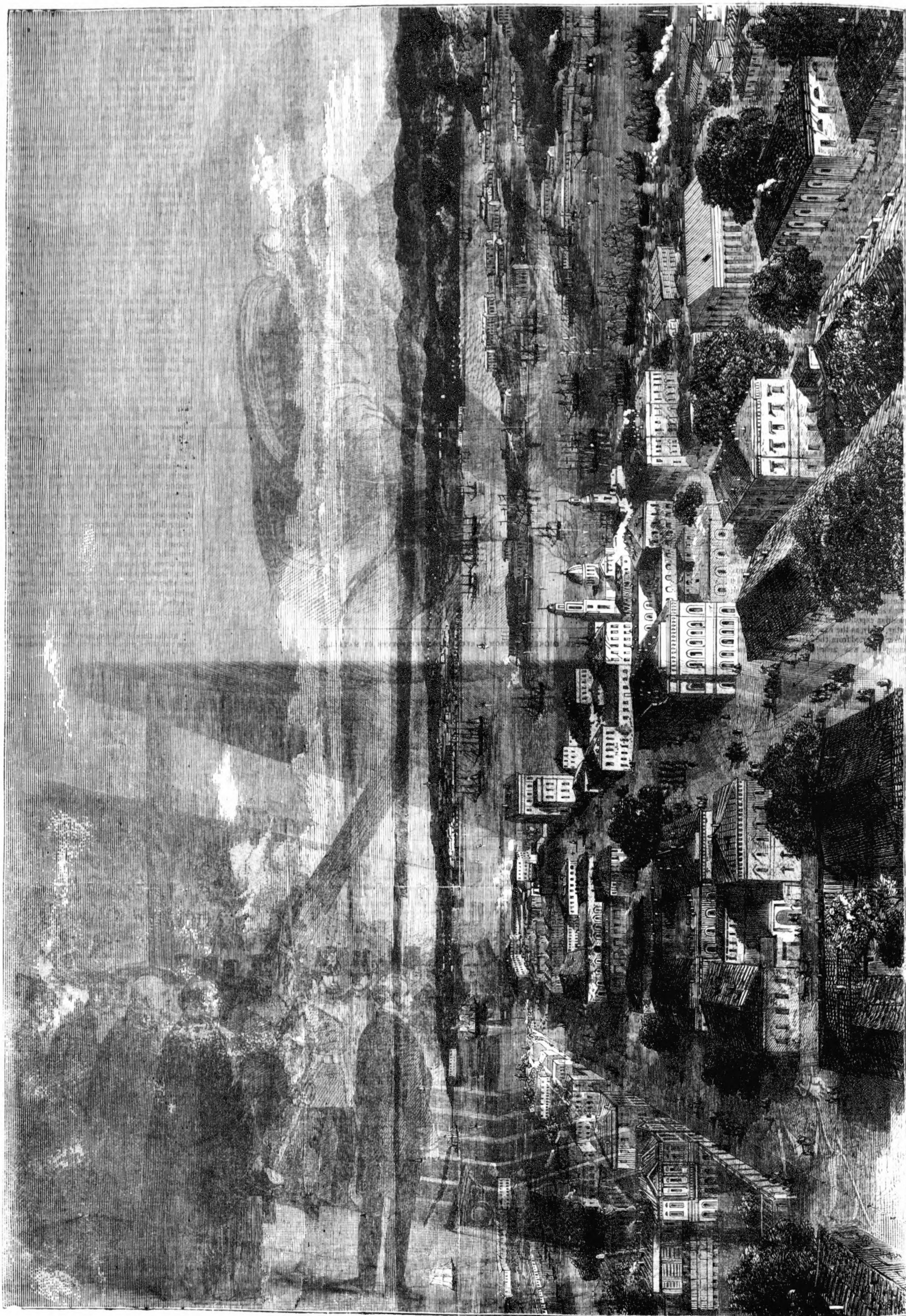
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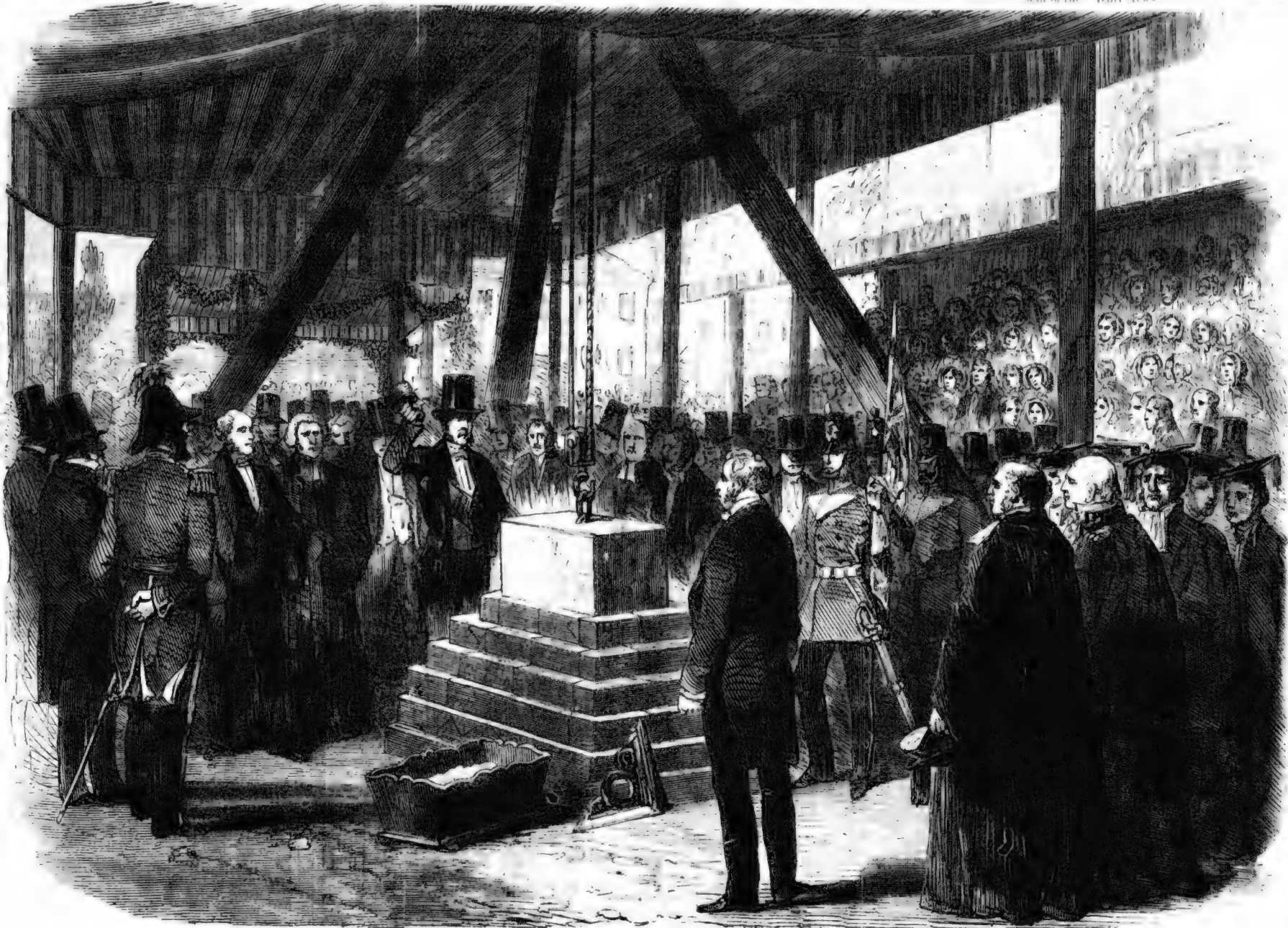
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* At the time of the decease of Mr. Dickens, some two three years ago, he was one of the editorial staff of the "Daily News."



PRINCE ALBERT LAYING THE FIRST STONE OF THE BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND INSTITUTE.

Talfourd and Campbell, in the Reporters' Gallery. He became a member of the parliamentary corps of the "True Sun," an ultra liberal paper. He was subsequently one of the reporters on the "Mirror of Parliament," a journal whose avowed object was to give in *extenso*, word for word, all the speeches of every member of the Legislature. It was splendidly printed, produced at an enormous expense, and after a session or two fell to the ground in the true heroic style. Mr. Dickens, about 1835-6, passed to the staff of the "Morning Chronicle," and in its successful, the "Evening Chronicle," appeared serially those delightful daguerreotypes of life and character, the "Sketches by Boz." After a lapse of twenty years' cheap literature, these "Sketches" seem at the first glance to be very slight performances indeed. There is probably not a number of Mr. Dickens's own periodical, "Household Words," that does not contain an article on London life or manners, either from his own or a coadjutor's pen, possessing more thought, and observation, and graphic truth than can be found in a dozen of the "Sketches." But they were the first of their class. Dickens was the first to unite the delicately playful thread of Charles Lamb's street musings, half experiences, half bookish phantasies, with the vigorous wit, and humour, and observation of Goldsmith's "Citizen of the World,"—his "Indigent Philosopher," and "Man in Black," and twine them together into that golden cord of essay which combines literature with philosophy, humour with morality, amusement with instruction. The Sketches by "Boz," (the pseudonym originated with one given to a pet brother, who, rechristened "Moses," in honour of the "Veil of Wakefield," facetiously pronounced the name through the nose, "Bozes," and at last corrupted it to "Boz"), made a great sensation at the time. They were afterwards collected into one volume, with numerous etchings by George Cruikshank, then in the zenith of his fame, and were published by Mr. Macrone, of St. James's Square, a young and enterprising bookseller. We are not aware of the exact sum paid to Mr. Dickens for the copyright of the "Sketches," but it is patent that, a few months after the publication, falling into difficulties, sold his copyright in the work either to Mr. Bentley or to Messrs. Chapman and Hall, for eleven hundred pounds. Poor Macrone was unfortunate, fell into ill health, and died, leaving a widow and young children, for whose benefit Mr. Dickens, with the assistance of some literary friends, edited and published a work composed of "voluntary contributions," called the "Pickwick Papers."

The "Sketches by Boz" were, as all the world knows, succeeded by the "Pickwick Papers." Originally intended as a mere vehicle to Robert Seymour's admirable caricatures—a foil to his redundant humour—they became, after the lamented and inexplicable death of the artist, attractions in themselves. The wit and genius of the author soon elevated Mr. Pickwick from a burlesque elderly Cockney to the rank of the hero of a comic epic. It would be useless, impertinent, were there indeed space, to descend on the merits of this glorious book. Many more has Mr. Dickens written since the last number of "Pickwick" has been given to the world. Thousands and thousands have since laughed and wept at the bidding of this kindly magician, but no work of his has ever created, will ever create, the excitement, excite the curiosity, compel the attention, give half the genial pleasure, felt by the whole public when they perused the "Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club." As when a man is blest with many children, and looks around and knows not which he loves the most, but yet remembers that first little child that died, the "baby"—there have been many "babies" since then, but this was "baby" *par excellence*—so we, gratefully and pleasantly calling in review the many good books, which, in the familiar green covers, have delighted us from year to year, can never forget or conceal our preference for the first-born—the book of books. We put him not first because he was the best, but we like him best because he was the first.

"Pickwick" brought about the same result with Dickens as "Clarel Harold" with Byron. He awoke one morning and found himself famous. From the ranks of the great army of literary martyrs, he came calmly and smilingly to take the *leçon* of field-marshal as of right. That is very nearly twenty years ago, and bravely has he kept his high command. Reader, remember, when Charles Dickens was an unknown newspaper reporter, William Makepeace Thackeray was a "crack" writer on "Fraser's Magazine," and lo! it is but four or five years since the author of "Vanity Fair" attained an equally elevated seat on the literary dais as the author of the "Pickwick Papers."

The history of Mr. Dickens, from the publication of "Pickwick" to the present time, is little more than a history of his successive works—"Oliver Twist," "Nicholas Nickleby," "The Old Curiosity Shop," "Martin Chuzzlewit," "Barnaby Rudge," "Dombey and Son," "David Copperfield," and "Bleak House;" the Christmas books—the "Christmas Carol," the "Chimes," the "Crisquet on the Hearth," the "Battle of Life," and the "Haunted Man." Beyond the fact that he has produced these good works, that he has made journeys to the United States and to Italy, and embodied his travelling experience in "American Notes" and "Pictures from Italy," that he has been since 1850 the conductor and (we believe) the proprietor of "Household Words," and that he has avowed himself lately to be a thoroughgoing Administrative Reformer, and made an eloquent speech at the great meeting at Drury Lane Theatre, very little more can be said of Mr. Dickens's public career.

Of him, in his private capacity, a few more words remain to be written. Our fair readers will be glad to learn that he married, in the morning of his fame, Miss Catherine Hogarth, the daughter of Mr. George Hogarth, a well-known musical critic and writer, and that he is blessed in having a quiver full of arrows—male and female. For his personal appearance, we must refer our readers to the portrait; and to those who would wish to form an idea of his more youthful semblance, we may commend the engraving from Mr. Macle's picture, prefixed to the first edition of "Nicholas Nickleby." To yet more curious amateurs of sayings and doings, we may add that Charles Dickens is an early riser and worker, an indefatigable pedestrian, averaging, we have heard, ten miles a day; that he is a vivacious companion, a brilliant conversationalist, and an accomplished amateur actor.

Were the writer of this notice in the habit of eating toads or hunting tuffs, he could add a great deal more concerning Mr. Dickens's private character, and of certain things he does with his right hand, letting not his left hand know that he does them. Some women that are widows, and some children that are fatherless, and we regret to say, too many members of the ingenious confraternity of begging-letter writers, will understand our meaning.

Of course, Mr. Dickens has had his detractors: of course, Sir Benjamin Backbite has shaken his head, and said "It could not last;" of course, Mrs. Snecrwell has smiled sarcastically and whispered "overrated, my dear." What else could be expected? Some charitable people even circulated a report a few years ago, that he had gone raving mad! Some one even set about a joke (good, but stolen from an honest wit) that Dickens had "gone up like a rocket, and would come down like the stick." Somehow, he has not come down yet. Then the army of detractors took refuge in the safe insinuation, "that he had written himself out." Somehow, "Bleak House," his last work, had a larger sale than any of its predecessors.

This is not the place to criticise the writings of Charles Dickens. The best criticisms, perhaps, will be spontaneously evoked from the hearts of thousands of our readers, when they glance at this portrait, and remember how many smiles they have given to Young Bailey—how many tears to Little Nell. Criticism!—if such were indeed needed—the noblest, would be found in the admission of William Thackeray, "that he had wept for the death of Tiny Tim, and sung a psalm of triumph when he found that Bob Cratchit's little child did not really die."

THE PRACTICE OF BLEUING THE PAPER PULP had its origin in a singularly accidental circumstance. It occurred about the year 1790, at a paper-mill belonging to Mr. Butterfield, whose wife, on the occasion in question, was superintending the washing of some fine linen, when accidentally she dropped her bag of powdered blue into the midst of some pulp in a forward stage of preparation, and so great was the fear she entertained of the mischief she had done, seeing the blue rapidly amalgamated with the pulp, that all allusion to it was studiously avoided; until, on Mr. Butterfield's inquiring in great astonishment what it was that had imparted the peculiar colour to the pulp, his wife, perceiving that no very great damage had been done, took courage, and at once disclosed the secret—Paper and Paper Making.

Fraser, 1815.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1855.

VISIT OF THE KING OF SARDINIA.

ANYTHING which tends to cement the alliance of the Powers now engaged in combating Russian aggression, must be welcome to the English people. The hospitalities of Sovereigns are the holidays of politics. And though VICTOR EMMANUEL might have come at a period when our skies (never very brilliant) are a little more like those which men look up to from the plains of the Po, he will find the English people cheerful enough to give him a hearty welcome. We must not forget the family tie between the House of Savoy and that of Great Britain, arising from the marriage of VICTOR AMADEUS II. with the granddaughter of CHARLES I. Even in these prosaic days, there are many who will not overlook this; while the son of CHARLES ALBERT has a claim on the regard of those who cherish, among their political day-dreams, the hope of seeing Italy delivered from the rule of the foreigner.

It would be difficult to point to a family among the reigning houses of Europe which has more uniformly produced distinguished men, or more honestly earned its dynastic position, than the House of Savoy. In the twilight of the tenth century appears a stalwart "Count of Maurienne," reigning in those regions of the world where his lineal descendants are still kings. As warriors—as Crusaders—the line held steadily on, producing man after man capable of the position, and adding to their territories by their valour or their skill. They acquired Nice in the fourteenth century, and Piedmont in the fifteenth. They defended themselves against assailants on every side; so that modern Europe found them in no unimportant position, and they allied themselves with the blood of Bourbon and Hapsburg. A glance at the commonest map will show the delicacy and difficulty of their geographical position. Placed between the territories of the Houses of France and Austria, they were exposed to the devastations of contending armies. During the sixteenth century their possessions were dismembered; but the genius of one of the line recovered its provinces, and Savoy and Piedmont came back to EMMANUEL PHILIPPE, one of the first soldiers of his time, after half a century's estrangement. In the next century, their resistance to the power of LOUIS XIV. was most gallant. The name of Prince EUGENE is still even familiar in England. And when we made the Peace of Utrecht, in 1713, the island of Sicily, and the title of king, rewarded the parts and heroism of VICTOR AMADEUS II. He exchanged Sicily for Sardinia, and from the last island the family has taken its Royal title. As, during all these centuries, a succession of a dullard or two must have ruined the whole, it is obvious that here we have a lineage—not only a matter of honourable sentiment, but of strict historic fact.

In later times this family has not been negligent of the new duties which devolve upon them. Piedmont was one of the first countries which, long before the French Revolution was thought of, abolished almost the whole system of feudal authority and personal service, as far as these had become anomalous in a changed state of society. In the last century, too, they favoured science and letters, sternly repressed the priests, and defied the spiritual tyranny of Pope CLEMENT. In matters of internal regulation, order, and comfort, their country is one, the improvements of which have called out the praise of economists. The Monarch who is to be among us by the time this article appears, is a worthy scion of the stock—quite English, we may say (it is, of course, our highest praise), in his abhorrence of "Papal aggression," and his determination to stick to the Russian war till the barbarians are weary of the business and inclined to repent. The admirable troops he sent to the Crimea are famous everywhere; and the white cross of Savoy floated as proudly on the Tchernaya as ever it did these many centuries.

We sincerely hope this alliance will be permanent and popular. The war may do good to the peoples in this way, by promoting communication between nations whose interest it is to know each other, and to emulate each other's advantages. It may do good, too, by strengthening the ambition of a monarch like VICTOR EMMANUEL to deserve well of his subjects, when he sees how pliable and affectionate a people really are, when bravely and cheerfully led forward in a good cause. We have all along maintained that our governors might immensely strengthen themselves by conducting this war heartily and boldly. Compare the position of the King of Sardinia with that of the puny miscreant ROMBA, the poor old Pope, or the Hapsburg, who has just degradingly hung himself on to the apron-strings of the Scarlet Woman! Why, every Italian who remembers old days is proud to see an Italian potentate so honoured, and an Italian army sent, by a ruler of Genoa, to conquer in lands where the old Genoa conquered ages ago! But these are not the only considerations. If Italy is ever to rise again, it will be through those measures of reform which grow out of old and substantial institutions—like changes in England—and not by the wild vagaries of men who hope to improve everything by destroying everything—who mistake hysterics for energy—and the mass of whose followers have no higher notion than that of keeping the pot boiling by burning ancient establishments! The English people is not credulous enough for these persons, and will welcome the King of Sardinia all the more heartily, because, ruling over the most prosperous part of Italy, he also rules by right of one of the most ancient titles in Europe. Wherefore, we shall be glad to see his Majesty of Sardinia popularly welcomed, and (in our native fashion) heartily cheered, during his stay in these realms.

INQUIRY INTO THE CONDUCT OF THE POLICE ON JULY 1.—The report of the commissioners appointed to inquire into the conduct of the police in Hyde Park, on the 1st of July, was issued on Wednesday week. It is accompanied by a letter from Sir George Grey, to Sir Richard Mayne, Commissioner of Police. Superintendents Hughes and O'Brien are censured for want of judgment and forbearance; three policemen are to be indicted, and three are to be dealt with as the Commissioner thinks fit. The report also condemns the delay in putting the prisoners on their trial and the refusal of bail.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE EMPRESS EUGENIE has sent a sum of 500*l.* to the poor orphans at Seyssel, left helpless by the death of their parents from cholera.

THE BISHOP OF DURHAM is reported to have made a donation of 12*l.* towards the erection of a school in connection with the United Presbyterian Chapel at Blyth.

LORD STANLEY is spoken of in Paisley as a probable candidate for the representation of that burgh, in the event of a dissolution of Parliament.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION is beginning to assume a confused appearance, owing to many of the contributors—especially the English—having commenced packing up their goods.

MR. COBDEN (says the "Yorkshireman"), has met the shadow of a chance of being again returned for the West Riding.

THE WIDOW of Dr. Morrison of Hong Kong, has received a large gold medal from the Emperor of the French, in testimony of her late husband's kindness to the French residents at Hong Kong.

SIR ARCHIBALD ALISON presided the other day at a preliminary meeting of the citizens of Glasgow, for the purpose of taking measures to procure subscriptions for the purchase of a sword to be presented to Major-General Sir Colin Campbell.

THE LATE FIRE IN PARIS has given rise to various speculations as to its cause; and many suppose that it originated from foreign agency.

CAPTAIN ROBERT M'CLURE, the Arctic discoverer, has received the honour of Knighthood from her Majesty.

AT VIENNA, there appear at present 59 journals—of which 19 are dedicated to politics, 15 to the belles lettres, and 25 to the various departments of science.

THE PRINCE DE JOYVILLE and the Duc d'Angoulême left Dover last week, to visit their venerable parent, the ex-Queen Amelie.

THE ANNUAL SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW is to commence at the Bazaar, Baker Street, on the 11th inst.

COUNT TADAZ KOSNOWSKI, the last surviving aide-de-camp of Stanislaus Augustus, last King of Poland, and a man of great wealth, has died recently at one of his chateaux in Southern Russia.

MR. ALBERT SMITH will re-open the ascent of Mont Blanc, at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, on Monday next, when some important variations will be introduced.

CAPTAIN CARPENTER, late of the 11st Regiment, who was severely wounded at the battle of the Alma, has, by the decision of the Court of Chancery, his week, come into possession of £60,000.

A PUBLIC LIBRARY, under the provisions of the "Public Libraries Act of 1855," has been refused, by a large majority, at a meeting called at Tonbridge Wells, specially convened for the purpose of taking the subject into consideration.

MRS. FANNY KEMBLE has made a donation of £25 to the York County Hospital.

ADMIRAL LYONS is to spend a part of the winter at Malta.

SIR ROBERT PEEL, M.P., is said to be about to espouse the Hon. Miss Hay, youngest daughter of the Marquis of Tweeddale, and sister of the Duchess of Wellington and the late Marchioness of Dalhousie.

GENERAL SIMPSON reached Marseilles on the evening of Saturday last, and arrived at the War Office in London on Monday, where he remained throughout the day.

MANY FAMILIES in MANCHESTER, and the neighbouring hamlets, have adopted a resolution not to use any more sugar until the prices were reduced.

THE DUKE GEORGE OF MECKLENBURG-STRELITZ, who accompanied the Czar to Odessa, is younger brother of the Hereditary Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, who receives £3,000 a year from the English nation by reason of his marriage with the Princess Augusta of Cambridge.

MR. FREDERICK PEEL, M.P., is said to have resigned his office of Under Secretary of War.

THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT has lately given considerable orders to a Rhinish house for delivery next spring of bullet-proof steel cuirasses.

A NEW COMET was discovered on the 14th ult., by M. Karl Bruhns, Berlin Observatory, and it is in the constellation of the Lion, near Regulus.

A PAISH OVERSEER at Dover, named Brett, has been committed for trial, for disturbing a Mormon congregation.

THE CONTEST of MONTJOY, mother of the Empress Eugenie, has purchased the villa of M. Emile de Girardin, in the Champs Elysees.

THE VICTORIA DOCKS, which have been excavated and formed on the western division of Plumtree Marshes, near Blackwall, and which are the first of our metropolitan docks for expense of water, were publicly opened for the reception of shipping on Monday last.

THE EARL OF LEICESTER has taken steps for the establishment of a library and reading-room in the parish of Holkham, where working men are to have every evening with tea, coffee, pipes, and the newspapers and periodicals of the day.

THE GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN held its first annual meeting at the Rooms, in Charles Street, St. James's, on Tuesday last, Edward Walford, Esq., M.A., of Balliol College, Oxford, in the chair, when it was announced that it is the intention of the Council to commence the publication of a journal forthwith, and to establish a library of genealogical and heraldic works.

THE PEOPLE OF STROUD met last week, to hear a peace lecture; but the opinions of the lecturer were received with decided disapprobation, and after a strong discussion, a resolution in favour of the war was carried, amid great cheering.

ADMIRAL BRUAT, who had just been recalled from the command of the French fleet in the Black Sea, breathed his last, on the voyage from Constantinople to Toulon.

LIEUT. W. AUSTEN, R.N., late Governor of the Birmingham gaol, was tried before the Court of Queen's Bench on Saturday last, for cruelties practised towards the prisoners (see "Illustrated Times," No. X.), and sentenced to three months' imprisonment in the Queen's Bench Prison.

ONE OF THE ST. PETERSBURG JOURNALS states that the news of the London Stock Exchange reaches St. Petersburg every day in 11 or 12 hours.

GENERAL DELLA MARMORA, on the 11th ult., celebrated the Feast of St. Martin, with a grand review of 15,000 of the Sardinian troops now serving in the Crimea.

COUNT MOLE, having been stricken with apoplexy, died on Saturday, at his seat, Champlatreux.

ON THE EVENING of Friday, Nov. 23, an address from the Foreign Affairs Committee of Newcastle-on-Tyne (representing the recent public meeting in that town), was presented to Victor Hugo, at his residence, Hauteville, Guernsey.

A PUBLIC MEETING was held last week at the British School-room, Odham, to express the indignant feelings of the residents upon the unwarrantable proceedings of the Rev. Mr. Lush, curate of Greywell, in re-marrying two persons according to the rites of the Church of England, they having been legally married last year in accordance with the act in the dissenting chapel.

OMAR PACHA, at the date of the last authentic accounts, threatened Zugdidi, a town about six miles from the Ingour, on the road to Kutais.

THE KING OF SARDINIA, on leaving England, will proceed to Belgium, and after a short stay at Brussels will return to Piedmont by Basle, Geneva, Annecy, and Chambéry.

MESSRS. JAMES BAYNES and Co., of Liverpool, the owners of the Black Ball line of Royal Mail Packets, have received a telegraphic despatch from Queensland, announcing the arrival of that port of the Oliver Lang, with the mails from Australia, and advices to Aug. 21, which have been anticipated.

MADAME JENNY GOLDSCHMIDT LIND has arrived in London, and again the public will have an opportunity of listening to that wonderful voice which, a few years ago, created such a marvellous furore throughout the land.

THE REMAINS of the late General Markham were removed, late on Saturday evening last, from Conduit Street, where the Gallant Officer breathed his last, to the station of the Great Northern Railway, at King's-cross, whence they were despatched to York.

THE COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL are making every preparation for the entertainment of the King of Sardinia, next week.

CAPTAIN TOWNSEND, while speaking at Tamworth, the other day, stated positively that, contrary to the account given by the correspondent of the "Times," General Windham went to General Codrington for the express purpose of requesting that not another man might be sent to the Bedouins, as such was the destructive fire of the enemy that it was impossible for a man to live there.

THE STRIKE AT MANCHESTER.—There has been no addition to the strike since last week, but some additional work people have been thrown out of employ in consequence of the strike. The turn-outs walk in procession every day through the streets, and the processions on Monday and Tuesday last were much more numerous than before. At times, 700 to 800 people, including females, joined the ranks, and men bearing boxes and books for subscriptions entered houses and shops on either side the streets to ask for contributions. The committee appointed by the men on strike, have issued a reply to the address of the employers. At Oldham, the master cotton-spinners are preparing to partially stop their mills.

Literature.

selected from the Writings of Thomas Carlyle. By THOMAS BALLANTYNE. Chapman and Hall.

MR. CARLYLE'S writings are too numerous, and their price too high, to be accessible to the many; add to this, that in subject and demand a thorough study, and an amount of general knowledge common—and the propriety of a selection like this becomes apparent. Mr. Carlyle is simply the most important writer in Europe, and all that facilitates the study of him demands our warmest encouragement.

The way in which the present editor has performed his task is respectable, and which devolved on him was no light one. He had to call—first, on the past; those which embody Carlyle's views of spiritual truth, of nature, and of duty;—next, those in which he reveals his conclusions about history, including all that we sum up under the head of politics; and, finally, some specimens of his literary faculty, as evinced in pictorial and humorous delineation, and so forth. On the whole, speaking guardedly, he has done this well. The Memoir is plain and simple, and will be welcomed for its facts. It would have been a great mistake in Mr. Ballantyne to have written of Carlyle as to have drawn any attention to himself. This we remark, to vindicate him from anybody who may call the Memoir dull. Dulness is commendable in cases where effort would have been presumption.

We shall now address ourselves to the reader who may make his first acquaintance with Carlyle through this volume. Let him remember that he is only before him the merest handful of beauties from the Carlylian form. Of the strange splendour of his more fantastic style—he cannot know the fascinations without reading the "Diamond Necklace"—where he will see how a bit of historical fact may be (as it were) turned into a constellation, and made magical, without ceasing to be real. To comprehend the mastery of Carlyle over English, as a language capable of a classic style, he must read the "Burns" article. The essays on "Disraeli," on "Hume," on "Sir Walter Scott," on "France," are all biographies in themselves—with no peers out of the "Aristotle" of Tacitus. And don't let him carelessly talk of the faculty there shown as "picture talent" only, without inquiring what picture talent is. On reflection, he will find that it cannot be severed from insight into the thing as painted, or, in other words, from wisdom to know it, and from sympathy to feel it. After proper study, he will see that it is *poetic genius*, in fact, which produces these results, and that on the surface Carlyle is a great artist—perhaps as great an artist as ever lived.

But having gone so far, let him not stay on the surface, but inquire and study further, and he will see that "great artist" is not half a description of the man. He represents as artist what he has apprehended as thinker—being, yet, only separately isolable as thinker, because this is an age which draws many men to literature, by the mere fact that it does not so easily afford a scope for action. There is nothing so odd in what Carlyle says, and the way in which he says it, to any one who knows the character of the Saxon Scots from whom he comes, or who have studied it in the history of the Scots Reformation and the writings of John Knox. In Knox's sermons, there was just that blending of religious intensity and sarcastic humour. But Carlyle—instead of being nourished on Calvin's theology—came after the eighteenth century, and close in the wake of the French Revolution, and was a truly aboriginal well read in general literature. The object of his life might be defined in a sentence, as being an effort to reform modern Europe, religiously—without reference to its dogmas. To unfold this would require a volume; but there is the central light; read by it, and every page of his books will be luminous to you.

Perhaps it would be as well for us to clear the question "what his political opinions are?" from the confusion in which persons involve it, and in which it must be involved to all who do not carefully study his writings.

In the first place, he says that all the work of the world is done through great men—by men who represent what the world wants, but who by their personal superiority are able to carry it out for them. This is the "Hero-Worship" doctrine. The history of Europe is based on Hero-Worship—where kings, nobles, saints, bishops, and all leaders of mankind, whose labours stand emboldened before us in "institutions"—precisely as the religion and genius of the Middle Ages is made visible and tangible in Westminster Abbey. Here is, at once, a base of sympathy between Carlyle and Conservatism—Carlyle and Young England—Carlyle and the King of France, &c. &c. But he does not stop here! "Nothing will continue," says he. All these things become effete. Worship becomes idolatry; and kings, "solemnly constituted impostors." The Reformer at last is absolutely necessary. Nature avenges herself, and we have a "French Revolution"—the history of which Carlyle has accordingly written; or a Cromwell. Here, again, is the base of sympathy on which Carlyle and Radicalism meet. As Radicalism is much more active than Conservatism, this is the side of Carlyle of which in our days we have the most.

However, we are by no means yet arrived at our goal. Democracy—the new Radicalism—generally takes as its determined aim, in Carlyle, as in the oldest Tory. He does not believe in the power of the many to choose the right man. He does not believe Democracy *finis*—in short, it is a means towards better government; but better government will be still that of a few; for in all ages, and all forms, the fundamental truth of Hero-Worship will assert itself. Besides, mere destruction, *per se*, has nothing beautiful in it; the old must be struck to, while there is a drop of virtue left; and the new must have virtue akin to what the old originally had; whereas, most Radicalism is merely negative—materialistic, selfish, and hard.

This last necessity—viz., of the kind of virtue the new should have—follows from Carlyle's views of the nature of man himself. He rejects the doctrine which teaches that man is selfish, and to be governed only, economically, like a horse. He is to be governed through his religion—through his imagination—through depths in his soul which are beyond the reach of description and analysis. If the reader ponders this, it will be useful to him in studying such phenomena as the Crusades, Puritanism, Quakerism, Wesleyanism—all which are inexplicable without it. Take the following passage as illustrative of what we mean, and characteristic, too, of Carlyle's style:—

THIS MIRACULOUS WORLD!

You remember that fancy of Aristotle's, of a man who had grown to maturity at some dark distance, and was brought, on a sudden, into the upper air to see the sun rise. What would his wonder be, says the philosopher, his rapt astonishment, at the sight we daily witness with indifference! With the free open sense of a child, yet with the ripe faculty of a man, his whole heart would be kindled by that sight—he would discern it well to be godlike—his soul would fall down in worship before it. Now, just such a childlike greatness was in the primitive nations. The first Pagan thinker among rude men, the first man that began to think, was precisely the child-man of Aristotle. Simple open as a child, yet with the depth and strength of a man, Nature had as yet, no more to him, he had not yet quitted under nature the infinite variety of sights, sounds, shapes, and motions, which we now collectively name Universe, Nature, or the like; and so with a name dismisses it from us. To the wild, deep-hearted man all as yet new, unveiled under names or formulas, it stood naked, flashing in its own beautiful, awful, unspokeable! Nature was to this man what to the thinker and prophet it is for ever, primordial. This green, flowery, rock-built earth, the trees, the mountains, rivers, many-sounding seas; that great deep sea of nature that swims overhead; the winds sweeping through it; the black cloud and fashioning itself together, now pouring out fire, now hail and rain—what is it? At bottom we do not yet know; we can never know at all. It is not by our superior insight that we escape the difficulty; it is by our superior faculty, our intuition, our want of insight. It is by not thinking that we cease to wonder at it. Hardened round us, enclosing wholly every notion we form, is a wrappings of traditions, hearsays—mere words. We call that fire of the black thunder-cloud "electricity," and lecture learnedly about it, and grind the life out of it out of glass and silk; but what is it? What made it? Whence comes it? whether goes it? Science has done much for us, but it is a poor science that would hide from us the great, deep, sacred infinitude of Existence, whilst we can never penetrate on which all sciences stand as a mere superficial film. This world, after all our science and sciences, is still a miracle—wonderful, marvellous, magical and more—to whoever will think of it.

Whoever does not feel this, need not fancy that he will ever understand this writer, or have the smallest right to pronounce on his doctrines. It

is this noble religiousness which has commended him to so many men of quite different characters of mind—the late Dr. Arnold, D'Aubigny, Froude, Kingsley, and such like. Meanwhile, it is astonishing how he has been borrowed from by men of all ranks; how he has inspired Disraeli and Dickens; how, while teaching great men, he has irritated little ones, down even to "Archer Gurney" (whoever he may be), who advertises "The Transcendentalists, a Satire." But no man alive is more utterly indifferent to opposition than Carlyle. He reminds one of Cardinal Bellarmine, who used to allow vermin to prey on him, saying, "We have eternal life, but these poor creatures only the present."

From what we have said, it will not be surprising that the "reform" in which alone Carlyle has faith, is the reform which every man can produce in himself. Wherever there is a man doing his duty according to the best light which in open mind and an open heart can attain for him, that man is working in Carlyle's spirit, whether or not he ever heard of his name.

Carlyle makes no account of literary talent in comparison with soundness of character, and holds everything subordinate to the supreme truth. Having briefly indicated the essentials of his doctrine, we must, however, do justice to him as a mere man of genius. In picture and humour he has no rivals, and will not have in our time. If you must have authority for this, you will be told in at any time by Ruskin, Tennyson, or Thackeray. But it is idle in such matters to trust one's honest feeling. Take, therefore, his paper on "Johnson," and compare it with Macaulay's; or his French Revolution, and compare it with Lamartine's. How he gets at the heart of the humanity of Johnson, connecting him with the whole human race and human history, while the brilliant reviewer at best remains a Whig, and satirist, and dextrous observer, going round and round, on the outside! How he makes the pale, proud, suffering Marie Antoinette stand out as on the Shaksperian stage, while the gifted, sentimental Frenchman decks her in the gauze of rhetoric and the glitter of epigram! But, if compared with these men, he is a great tragic poet, he is equally conspicuous for his humour. And here we shall (a "discretion" being talked of) make an extract from his "Past and Present," touching the "Bribery Question," not from the Blue-Book, but from a far deeper point of view. The thoughtful reader may chew the end of this to some purpose, and will not fail to discern through the sunny light of humour on it, what is humour, and what sad earnest. Who is "Pandarus Dogdraught"? Not, we hope, a right honourable reviewer of the old school, now aged, and of whom we get a vision in "Coningsby."

"MESSRS. DOGDRAUGHT RIGMAROLE AND POLITICS."

"Is not Pandarus Dogdraught a member of select clubs, and admitted into the drawing-rooms of men? Visibly to all persons he is of the off of creation; but he carries money in his purse, does better on his dog-visage, and it is believed will not steal spoons. The human species does not with one voice, like the Hebrew Psalmist, 'shun to sit' with Dogdraught, refuse to dine with Dogdraught; men called of honour are willing enough to dine with him, his talk being lively, and his champagne excellent. We say to ourselves, 'The man is a good society,' others have already voted for him, why should not I? We forget the indefeasible right of property that Satan has in Dogdraught—we are not afraid to be near Dogdraught! It is we that vote wrong; blindly, nay, with falsity prepossession! It is we that too longer know the difference between human worth and human unworth; or feel that the one is admirable and alone admirable, the other detestable, damnable! How shall we find out, a Hero and Viking Samson with a maximum of two shillings in his pocket? We have no chance to do such a thing. We have got out of the ages of heroism, deep into the ages of funkism,—and must reform or die! What a noble set of mortals are we, who believe there is no Saint Edmund, thus taking us at the rim of the horizon, are not afraid to be a better, for the day and hour, is smoother for us!"

"And now, in good sooth, why should an indigent discerning freeman give his vote without bribes? Let us rather honour the poor man that he does discern clearly without lies, for him, the true kernel of the matter. What is it to the ragged, grimy freeman of a tenpound-franchise borough, whether Aristide's Rigmarole, Esq., of the Destructive, or the Hon. Alcides Dolittle, of the Conservative party, be sent to Parliament; much more, whether the two-thirds-math pass of them be sent, for that is the amount of his faculty in it? Destructive or Conservative, what will either of them destroy or conserve of vital moment to this Freeman? Has he found either of them here, at bottom, a sponser for him or his interests, or those of his class or of his cause, or of any class cause that is of much value to God or to man? Rigmarole and Dolittle have alike cared for themselves hitherto; and for their own clique, and self-conceited coteries, their greasy dishonest interests of pudding, or windy dishonest interests of praise; and very perceptible for any other interest whatever. Neither Rigmarole nor Dolittle will accomplish any good or any evil for this guilty freeman, like giving him a fivepound-note, or refusing to give it him. It will be smoothest to vote according to value received. That is the veritable fact; and he, indignant, like others that are not indignant, acts conformably thereto."

"Why, reader, truly, if they asked thee or me which way we meant to vote, were it not our likeliest answer: Neither way? I, as a tenpound franchise, will receive no bribe; but also I will not vote for either of these men. Neither Rigmarole nor Dolittle shall, by furtherance of mine, good and make laws for this country. I will have no hand in such a mission. How dare I? If other men cannot be got in England, a totally other sort of men, different as light is from dark, as star-fire is from street-mud, what is the use of votes, or of Parliament in England? England ought to resign herself; there is no hope or possibility for England. If England cannot get her knaves and dastards 'arrested' in some degree, but only get them 'elected,' what is to become of England?"

We have purposely addressed ourselves to those who are beginning or about to begin the study of Carlyle, and not to those who, having made some progress, are better occupied in reading him than in reading anything we could say. The volume before us will be useful to a large class, and we hope will induce many to proceed to an extensive study of this important writer.

CABINET APPOINTMENTS.—Two Cabinet appointments were made on Saturday last. Lord Stanley of Alderley, who has for some time filled the office of President of the Board of Trade, is to have a seat in the Cabinet. Mr. M. T. Baines, formerly President of the Board of Health, has been appointed to the office of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, with a seat in the Cabinet. Mr. Baines has issued an address to the electors of Leeds, in which he says:—"Upon all the leading questions of domestic policy I believe my sentiments are fully known to you; they are the same which I have always endeavoured to give effect to in my votes. With regard to that great question which at present occupies the public mind, I think it my duty to say that, while I ament as much as any man the necessity for war, I am convinced that the war in which we are now engaged was absolutely forced upon us by the unprincipled and aggressive policy of Russia. I am also convinced that, situated as we are, it must be prosecuted with decision and energy until we can obtain—and for the purpose of obtaining—that honourable and secure peace which the country is on every account entitled to expect."

THE WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, RED LION SQUARE.—The Working Men's College numbers at this time 250 students, being a marked increase upon the last term. The attendance is remarkably steady, and it is said that many of the young men are displaying abilities of a high order. A great desire to learn French manifests itself among the students, seventy of whom attend the class in which that language is taught. Although the fees of the Working Men's College are all but nominal, the institution is nearly self-supporting. The public was some time since informed that a similar college had been opened at Cambridge, and will now learn with satisfaction that there is every probability that one will shortly be available to the working classes of Oxford.

THE COMPOSITOR'S LIBRARY, RAQUEST COURT, FLEET STREET.—The Librarian of the Compositor's Library acknowledges the gift of 120 volumes of books from Mr. Vere Foster. Out of the 2,000 volumes in the library, between 800 and 900 are in daily use, so that the library is in a very prosperous condition.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF SCHILLER'S BIRTHDAY.—It is proposed by the Schiller Union, at Leipzig, to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Schiller's birthday, by sending diplomas of honour to those who, by the pencil, dramatic art, criticism, translation, or otherwise, have distinguished themselves in extending and advancing the fame of the great poet. The names of Carlyle, England, Athol-Mesnard and Haec in France; and Maffei, in Milan, are among the names mentioned as entitled to this honour.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.—It has been computed that the United Kingdom contains 77,000,000 acres of land, of which only 47,000,000 are in cultivation; the remainder consists of 30,000,000 acres which could be reclaimed, and 15,000,000 unproductive. In addition to the land which could be reclaimed, the 47,000,000 acres could be made to produce much more than at present. The quantity of corn supposed to be imported is 5,000,000 quarters, and it is calculated that the land referred to could, if properly cultivated, produce three times their present yield.

WEEKLY OBITUARY.

MARKHAM, MAJOR-GENERAL FREDERICK.—We regret to announce the death of Major-General Markham, C.B., which took place on the morning of the 21st. The gallant General has only within a month returned from his command in the army in the Crimea, being compelled to relinquish it from extreme ill-health. The deceased General was in his fiftieth year, and was the second son of Admiral John Markham, son of Dr. Markham, Archbishop of York. While in the Crimea, rumour pointed to him as the future Commander-in-Chief.

WORTLEY, LADY EMILINE SHART.—We have to record the somewhat sudden demise of this distinguished lady, whose name has long been so familiar to the literary world. She died at Beyroot on the 29th of last month, from the effects of the kick of a mule, which threw her, and fractured her leg, while she was riding on the hills in the neighbourhood of Jerusalem. Her Ladyship, the second daughter of the present Duke of Rutland, by the Lady Elizabeth Howard, daughter of the fifth Earl of Carlisle, was born, we believe, in the year 1803, and was consequently in her fiftieth year. In 1831, she married the Hon. Charles Stuart Wortley, brother of the late Lord Wilmot, whose death we have so recently recorded, but was left a widow in 1841. She was a sister to the Marquis of Granby, M.P., and to Lord John Manners. Before that time, Lady Emeline had gained considerable reputation as an authoress of poetry and works of a lighter kind. She was a frequent and elegant contributor to the pages of the "Keepsake," the "Drawing-room Scrap Book," and other annuals, and more recently she has confirmed that position by her sketches in foreign countries, published under the title of "Etcetera," as well as by "Portugal and Madeira," "A Voyage in a Russian Steamer to St. Petersburg," (which it appeared, we believe, in the "Illustrated London Magazine"), and by poems of various kinds. Lady Emeline was a person of enthusiastic and eccentric character, and, probably, during her long residence abroad, had seen more of the countries and foreign society than any English lady of modern times, not excepting Lady Hester Stanhope, or the late Countess de Talbot. Her energy and natural spirits were so great, that in spite of the remonstrances of her physician, and her weakened constitution, she determined to undertake the journey through Beyroot to Aleppo. The fatigue, however, consequent upon this exertion, and the suffering arising from her broken limb, so entirely prostrated her Ladyship, that she sank beneath their combined effects, in spite of the unremitting attention of Dr. Sagnet, the French Government physician.

BROWN, CAPT. SIR JOHN ROBERT, BART.—This gentleman died at Stretton Hall, his seat, near Atherstone, Derbyshire, on the 21st ult., in the 57th year of his age. He was born in 1798, and married, in 1821, Catherine Puleo, younger daughter and co-heir of the late William Mylles, Esq., of Barlston Hall, in the county of Stafford, by whom he leaves issue two surviving daughters and four sons, the eldest of whom, Mylles, who succeeds him in the title as eleventh baronet, was born in 1823, and after retiring from the 11th Hussars (in which he had attained the rank of captain), he married, early in the present year, Isabella, daughter of J. Taylor, Esq. The late Baronet was a worthy country gentleman and an indulgent landlord. His loss will be severely felt by his family, a large number of whom followed his funeral to the grave at Stretton-le-Field Church. He was a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant for Derbyshire, of which county he was also High Sheriff in 1844. The Cavens are a Norman family, some of whom were settled in the eleventh century at North and South Cave, in Yorkshire. The first of the family who was created a baronet by Charles I. was a distinguished adherent of the Royal cause. His son, the second baronet, married the daughter and heiress of William Browne, Esq., of Stretton, whose ancestor had been Lord Mayor of London, and Master of the Mint under Henry VIII., and many members of the family have represented the county of Leicester during the last two centuries. We ought to add that the late Baronet, soon after succeeding to the title and property in 1838, assumed by sign manual, for himself and his brothers, the additional name of Cave, together with licence to bear the arms of Browne in the second quarter of his shield.

KNIGHT, REV. J.—The Rev. John Knight died a few days since at his residence, in Kings' Parade, Chilton, aged 65. He was a native of Bristol, and connected with that city during a long literary life. He was educated at Wadham College, Oxford, where he graduated B.A. in 1812, taking his Master's degree in 1815. He was a successful, busy, and pious writer, and a most popular lecturer, his epigrammatic pen was frequently employed in the way of puns, but his wit was always free from raucous and personal animosity, and tempered with excellent taste. He was an accomplished artist and critic on art, and was well known in the literary world as the author of those charming papers in "Blackwood" called "The Sketcher," and was a contributor to that periodical nearly down to his death. We are glad to see that "The Sketcher" is about to be reprinted in a separate form. As a young man, Mr. Knight was for a short time curate of Wincford, near Bristol, but never held any other preferment.

NICHOLAS, MISS G. H.—Miss Grace Harriet Nicholas, second daughter of the late Sir Horatio Nicholas, G.C.M.G., the learned historian, antiquarian, and his wife, daughter of J. Davison, Esq., of Loughton, Essex, died in Montagu Place on the 16th ult.

BROWN, GEN. SIR J.—To the list of distinguished individuals recently deceased, we must add the name of General Sir John Brown, K.C.M.G., and colonel of the 5th Hussars, who died on the 16th ult., at his lodgings in Pall Mall, in the 51st year of his age. He entered the army in 1795, as ensign in the 18th Foot, obtained the rank of lieutenant and captain in 1796 and 1797, got his majority in 1800, became lieutenant-colonel in 1811, full colonel in 1814, major-general in 1820, and lieutenant-general in 1841; and in June, 1841, was promoted to the rank of general. The late Sir John Brown had seen a considerable amount of active service. In the Peninsular campaigns he was attached to the Portuguese service; on his return home he was appointed commander of the cavalry depot at Maidstone. Besides his Honorary distinction, Sir John was a knight of the Portuguese order of the Tower and Sword, and of Charles III. of Spain. His capacities as a field-officer and a man of business were highly esteemed by the late and present Commanders-in-Chief; and the Duke showed his approbation of him in a marked manner, by conferring on him, unsolicited, in 1843, the colonelcy of the 5th Hussars. He was buried at Beckenham on Monday last.

CORBET, PANTON, ESQ.—This gentleman died at his seat, Longnor, near Shrewsbury, on the 22nd ult., at the age of 70 years. He was a person of considerable wealth and property, being the only son of the late Archdeacon Plymley, who assumed the name and arms of Corbet in 1804, after his maternal grandfather, by his wife Mary, third daughter of D. Drury, Esq., of Brimsay, county of Hereford. Mr. Corbet, who succeeded to the fine property of Longnor and Leighton, on his father's death, in 1838, was a Magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant for Shropshire, and represented Shrewsbury in Parliament from 1830 to 1839. He was a Conservative of the old school, and had long retired from public life. We believe that he never was married, and that the property passes into the hands of a distant cousin. The family is a branch of the Corbets of Moreton Corbet, whose ancestors came over to England with William, the Norman conqueror, and obtained large grants of land on the confines of Wales. The head of the family was created a Baronet in 1612; but the senior branch expiring with Sir Robert Corbet (7th Baronet), in 1774, the title reverted to a very distant cousin, Charles Corbet, Esq., of London, while the property was devised to his maternal kinsman, Robert Elliot, Esq., who assumed the name of Corbet, as also did his nephew, Dr. Plymley, whom we have mentioned above.

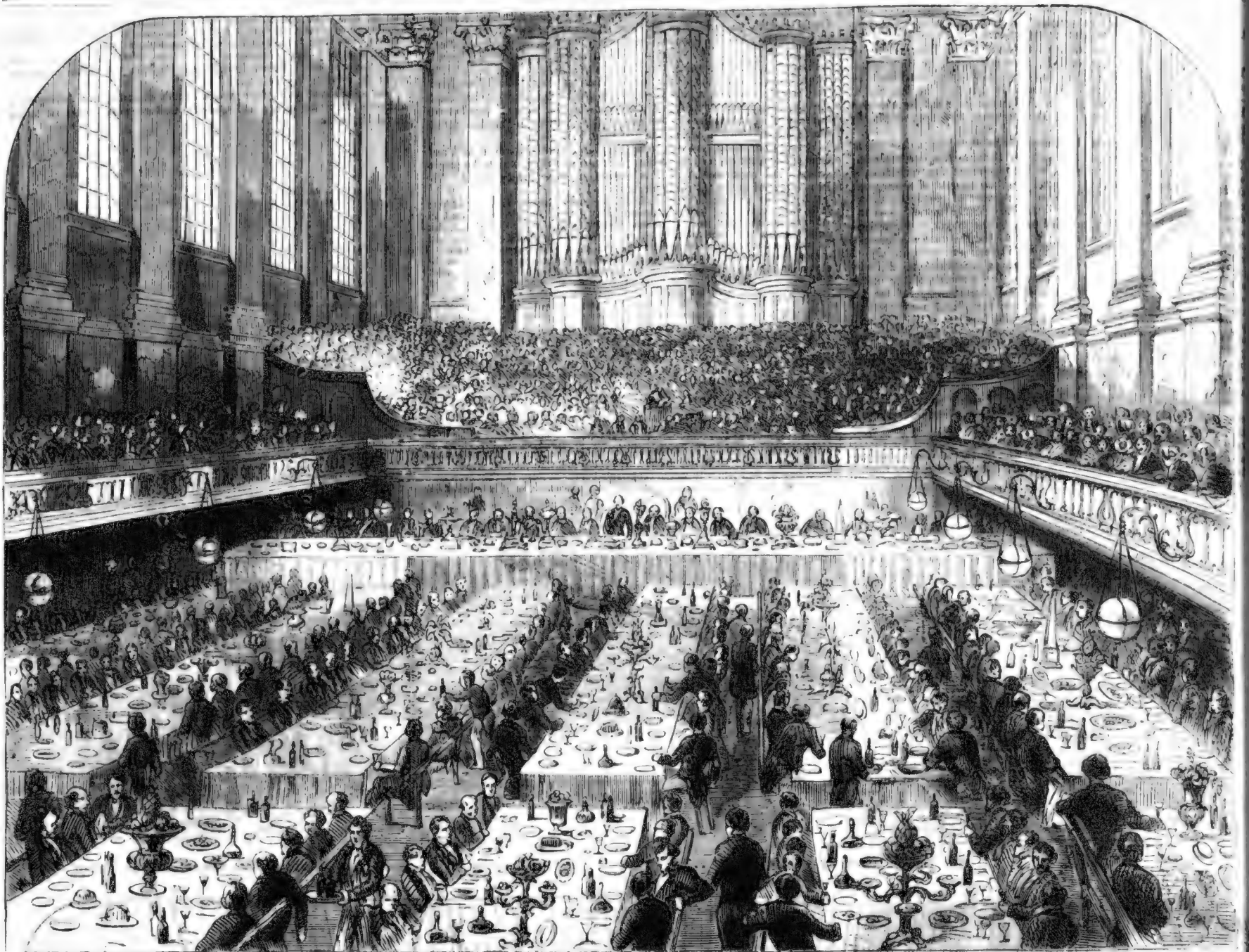
POWYS, L. S. P., ESQ.—Edward Shawe Powys, Esq., captain in the 61st Foot, died at Cashmere, in the East Indies, aged 29, on the 23rd of September last, after a very short illness. Having entered the army in 1844, he served in the Punjab campaign of 1845-9, and gained a clasp and medal. He was the second son of Henry Philip Powys, Esq., of Howelake House, Maudslough, near Reading, by his second wife, Philippa Emma, daughter of W. C. Shawe, Esq., of Preston. Mr. Powys is descended from a common ancestor with Lord Lilford, and his seat, charmingly situated upon the Thames, is said to have been a rendezvous of the Royalist party during the civil wars.

CARY, LIEUT. L. S. T. M.—Lieut. Lionel Stuart Traquair Munro Cary, son of the late and brother of the present R. S. Cary, Esq., of Tor Abbey, Devon, died on the 9th ult., aged 18, at Malta, at the house of his brother-in-law, T. Coxon, Esq., after a short illness. Exhaustion followed upon four months of exposure and hard work in the trenches before Sebastopol. He was severely wounded in the hand in September last, and his system gave away while he was on his way home on medical leave to recruit his health. The Cary family represent a branch of the Falkland family, and have long been settled at Tor Abbey, where a pedigree is still preserved, as drawn up and attested by the Herald's College, by order of Queen Anne Boleyn. The latter commences thus:—This pedigree contains a list of that most ancient family and surname of the Carys or Carys, in the county of Devon, and it shows that family was connected with the noble houses of Beaufort, Beauchamp, Spencer, Somerset, Bryan, Fulford, Orchard, Holway, &c. The family have been Roman Catholics for centuries past, and the present Mr. Cary has recently given the site for a new Roman Catholic Church at Torquay, opened last year, adjoining the Abbey grounds.

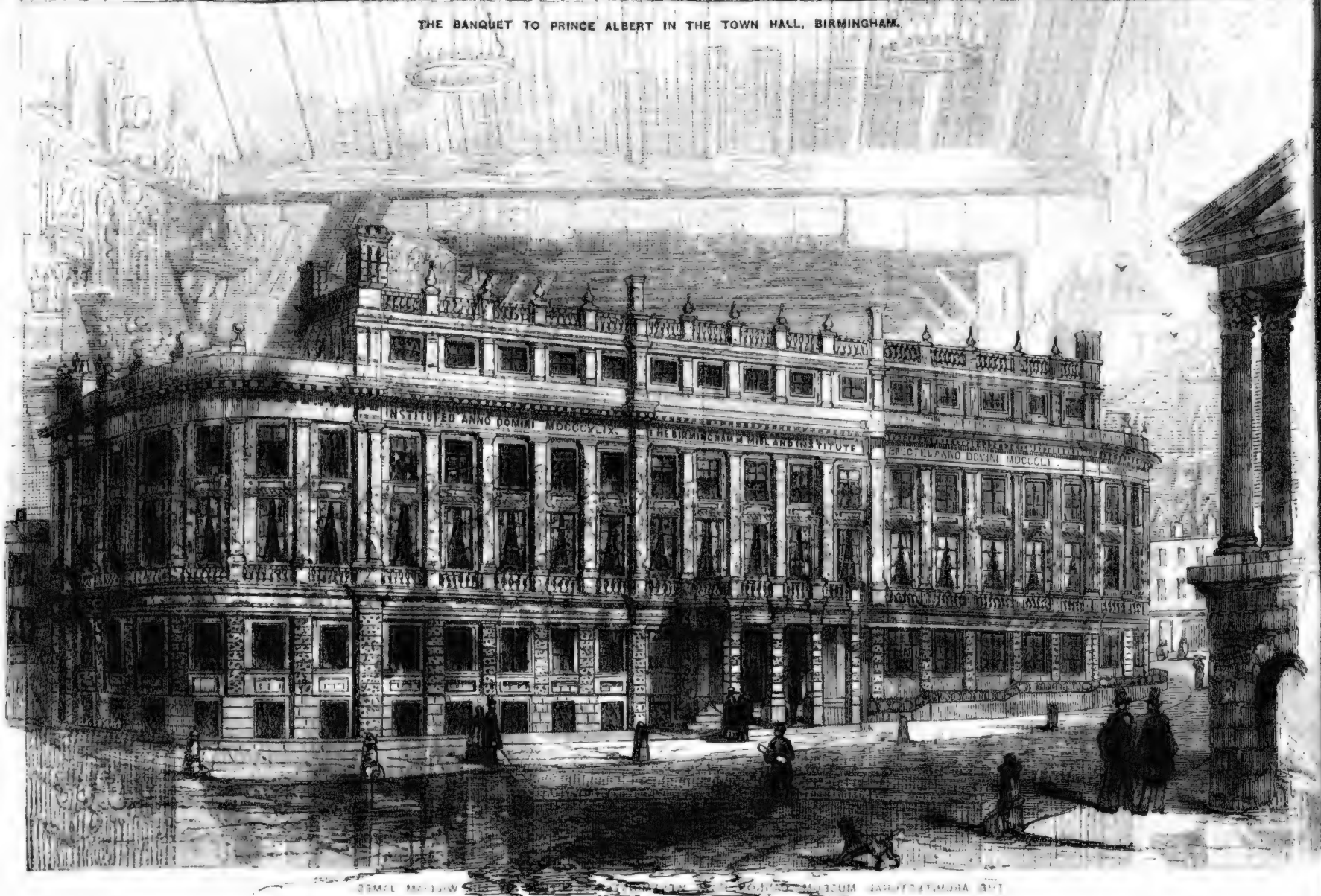
PENNEY, LIEUT. H.—Lieut. Henry Penney, of the 3rd Regiment (Rifles) son of J. Penney, Esq., of George Street, Hanover Square, and a distant relative of the late Lord Selkirk, died on the 15th ult., a few hours after his return to England from the East. The cause of his death was a severe gun-shot wound in the throat and jaw, which he received inside the Great Redan at Sebastopol, on the 5th of September last. His first commission bore date April, 1855.

GOULD, MRS. W.—We have to announce the decease of Harriet, widow of the late Admiral Sir David Gould, G.C.B., Vice-Admiral of England, in her 88th year. Her Ladyship died on the 15th ult., at Rayleigh, Essex, of a gradual decay. She was the eldest daughter of the Rev. William Piers, Archbishop of Wales, youngest son of Dr. Thomas Piers, Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells from 1735 to 1770, and married in 1780 the late Admiral, who died in 1841.

LEITCH, LIEUT. R.—Lieut. Richard Leitch, of the 10th Brigade, died at Sever or Sebastopol on the 15th ult. He was the eldest son of Sir Edward Leitch, Bart., of Colston Lodge, Co. Dublin, the celebrated antiquary in that city, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of William, second Earl and Viscountess, the Baron of Leitch. He had entered the army only just six months, his commission as lieutenant bearing date May 11, 1855.



THE BANQUET TO PRINCE ALBERT IN THE TOWN HALL, BIRMINGHAM.



THE NEW BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND INSTITUTE.

PRINCE ALBERT AT BIRMINGHAM.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND INSTITUTE.

As stated in our last number, Prince Albert visited Birmingham on Thursday week, for the purpose of laying the first stone of the Birmingham and Midland Institute. The Prince had twice previously visited the town—in the year 1844, when her Majesty was the guest of the late Sir R. Peel, at Drayton Manor—and again in 1849, when he went for the purpose of inspecting the Exhibition of Manufactures, then open at Bingley Hall.

The origin of the Midland Institute may be stated in a few words. The want of an Institution of the kind in Birmingham, commensurate with the character and requirements of a town where the occupations of the great majority of its artisans demand a certain amount of mechanical, chemical, or artistic knowledge, induced a number of gentlemen to endeavour to supply that deficiency. In January, 1853, they obtained the sanction of a public meeting, presided over by the mayor, to the scheme of a Literary and Scientific Institute; in 1854 the Institute was incorporated by Act of Parliament, and the Town Council granted a site adjoining the Town Hall for the proposed buildings, on condition that £10,000 was raised and available for their erection. The liberality of the noblemen and gentlemen of the neighbourhood, of the ironmasters of the district, and of the inhabitants of Birmingham, has placed a considerable portion of the required sum in the hands of the Council of the Institute; and several friends to the undertaking having entered into a personal guarantee for the balance of the stipulated £10,000, the Council are now in a position to commence the erection of the buildings. The full development of the scheme of education will require at least double the amount of the funds now in hand.

Notwithstanding the cold and drizzling rain which commenced at an early hour, and continued throughout the day, the loyal enthusiasm of the inhabitants was not in the least abated—of which the flags, the gaily decorated houses, and the great concourse of people who thronged the streets, abundantly testified. In short, everybody who could contribute did contribute in every possible way to give the Prince a thoroughly hearty English reception.

His Royal Highness and suite arrived at the Birmingham station of the Great Western Railway, from Windsor, shortly after twelve o'clock, where he was met by the Members of the Town Council, in the reception room, specially fitted up for the occasion. The recorder (Mr. M. D. Hill) read a laudatory address, to which the Prince made a very brief reply. The Town Council then retired, and the Members of the Council of the Institute were introduced to his Royal Highness by the Mayor, after which the procession was formed, and proceeded—in the manner stated in our impression of last week—to the site of the Institute in Paradise Street, where the ceremony of laying the first stone took place.

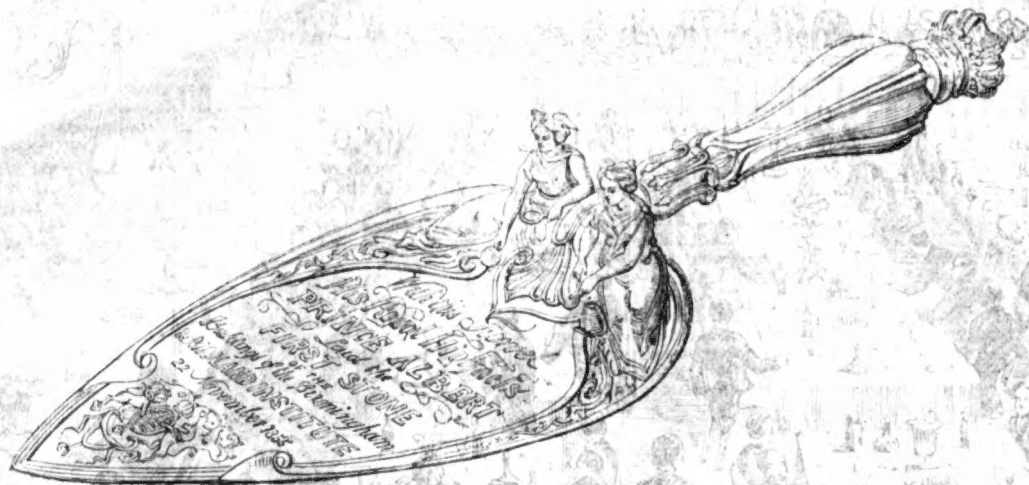
Before proceeding, however, to lay the stone, Lord Calthorpe, as President of the Council, read an address to Prince Albert, in which the origin, design, and requirements of this Institution were briefly stated. The Prince replied in the following terms:—

"My Lords and Gentlemen,—I thank you very sincerely for your address. It is with more than ordinary pleasure that I have accepted your kind invitation to take part in the ceremony which is this day to mark the first step towards the establishment of an institution, from which I join with its warmest supporters in looking for the most advantageous results. I cannot, indeed, doubt for a moment that the expectations of those who believe that the 'value and dignity of human labour will receive a manifold increase, when guided by the light of scientific knowledge,' will be amply realised. And it is most gratifying to me to hear the expression of your opinion that the desire for the 'keener and more comprehensive study of the principles by which the exercise of man's productive powers is controlled,' from which you anticipate such advantage, has been stimulated by the Great Exhibition of 1851, to my connection with which you have been pleased to allude in such flattering terms. I cannot forget that the example of such industrial exhibitions had been already set by this town, and with the best results; or that, to the experience so acquired, the executive committee of the greater undertaking of 1851 were much indebted in carrying that work to a successful issue. As Birmingham was thus foremost in giving a practical stimulus to the works of art and industry, so she is now one of the first in the field to encourage a scientific study of the principles on which those works depend for success. I trust with you, and confidently believe, that the 'moral as well as the material welfare of this great community' will be advanced by the union, for scientific objects, of men of all classes, and of all opinions, in such institutions as that of which I am to-day to have the honour of laying the first stone. And most heartily do I join with you in congratulating the country, that not even such a war as that in which we are now engaged, calculated as it is to enlist our

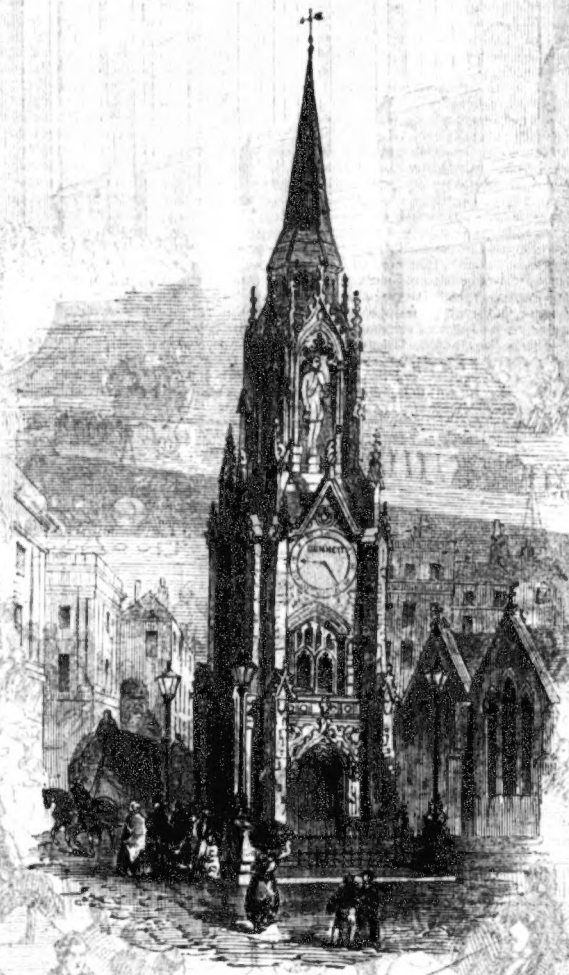
warmest sympathies, and to engage our more immediate interest, can divert Englishmen from the noble work of fostering the arts of peace, and endeavouring to give a wider scope to the blessings of freedom and civilisation."

The Hon. and Rev. Grantham Yorke then offered up a prayer, and under the auspices of Messrs. Branson and Gayther, the Prince proceeded to lay the stone in the usual form.

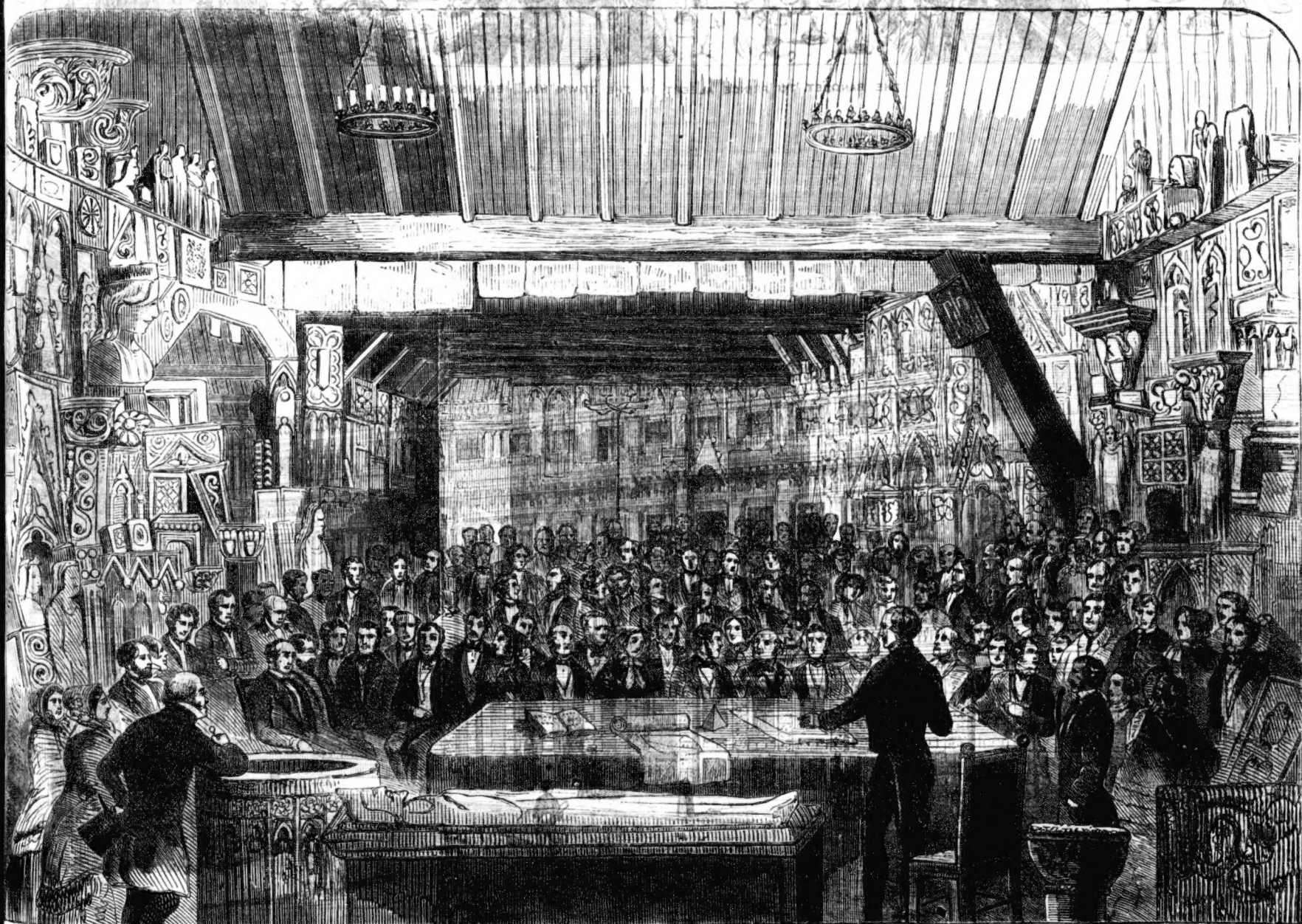
The ceremonial took place amidst much cheering, and subsequently addresses from the clergy and Queen's College were presented to his Royal Highness.



THE TROWEL USED BY PRINCE ALBERT.



WELLINGTON CLOCK-TOWER, LONDON BRIDGE.



THE ARCHITECTURAL MUSEUM, CANNON ROW, WESTMINSTER.—LECTURE BY SIR WILLIAM JAMES.

THE LUNCHEON.

The Luncheon took place in the Town Hall at half-past two. About 400 gentlemen sat down. The galleries were filled with ladies, and Lord Calthorpe presided. A very handsome chair was provided for the Royal Guest. In reply to the toast of his health, Prince Albert said:—

"My Lord,—I am much obliged to you for proposing my health in such kind terms, and I cannot but be much gratified by the cordial reception which you gentlemen have been pleased to give to this toast. It has been a great pleasure to me to have been able to participate, in however trifling a degree, in a work which I do not look upon as a simple act of worldly wisdom on the part of this great town and locality, but as one of the first public acknowledgments of a principle which is daily forcing its way amongst us, and is destined to play a great and important part in the future development of this nation and of the world in general—I mean the introduction of science and art as the conscious regulators of productive industry. The courage and spirit of enterprise with which an immense amount of capital is embarked in industrial pursuits, and the skill and indefatigable perseverance with which these are carried on in this country, cannot but excite universal admiration; but in all our operations, whether agricultural or manufacturing, it is not we who operate, but the laws of nature, which we have set in operation. It is, then, of the highest importance that we should know these laws, in order to know what we are about, and the reason why certain things are, which occur daily under our hands, and what course we are to pursue with regard to them. Without such knowledge, we are condemned to one of three states:—Either, we merely go on to do things just as our fathers did, and for no better reason than because they did them so,—or, trusting to some personal authority, we adopt at random the recommendation of some specific, in a speculative hope that it may answer,—or, lastly, and this is the most favourable case, we ourselves improve upon certain processes; but this can only be the result of an experience hardly earned and dearly bought, and which, after all, can only embrace a comparatively short space of time, and a small number of experiments. From none of these causes can we hope for much progress; for the mind, however ingenious, has no materials to work with, and remains in presence of phenomena the causes of which are hidden from it. But these Laws of Nature—these Divine Laws—are capable of being discovered and understood, and of being taught and made our own. This is the task of science—and whilst science discovers and teaches these laws, art teaches their application. No parent is, therefore, too insignificant not to be capable of becoming the subject both of a science and an art. The fine arts (as far as they relate to painting and sculpture, which are sometimes confounded with art in general) rest on the application of the laws of form and labour, and what may be called the science of the beautiful. They do not rest on any arbitrary theory on the modes of producing pleasurable emotions, but follow fixed laws, more difficult, perhaps, to seize than those regulating the material world, because belonging partly to the sphere of the ideal and our spiritual essence, yet perfectly appreciable and teachable, both abstractedly and historically, from the works of different ages and nations. No human pursuits make any material progress until science has been brought to bear upon them. We have seen, accordingly, many of them slumber for centuries; but from the moment that science has touched them with her magic wand, they have sprung forward and taken strides which amaze and almost awe the beholder. Look at the transformation which has gone on around us since the laws of gravitation, electricity, magnetism, and the expansive power of heat have become known to us! It has altered our whole state of existence—one might say the whole face of the globe! We owe this to science, and science alone; and she has other treasures in store for us, if we will but call her to our assistance. It is sometimes objected by the many exploded theories which have been superseded by others, as a proof that the present knowledge may be also unsteady, and after all not worth having. But they are not aware that while they think to cast blame upon science, they bestow, in fact, the highest praise upon her. For that is precisely the difference between disproved or not, whilst the former is an unresistable movement towards the continually progressing—feeling no false shame at her shortcomings, but, on the contrary, the highest pleasure when freed from an error, at having advanced another step towards the attainment of Divine truth, a pleasure not even intelligible to the pride of ignorance. We also hear, not unfrequently, science and practice, scientific knowledge and common sense, contrasted as antagonistic. A strange error! For science is eminently practical, and must be so, as she sees and knows what she is doing; whilst mere common practice is condemned to work in the dark, applying natural ingenuity to unknown powers to obtain a known result. Far be it from me to undervalue the creative power of genius, or to treat shrewd common sense as worthless without knowledge. But nobody will tell me that the same genius would not take an incomparably higher flight if supplied with all the means which knowledge can impart, or that common sense does not become, in fact, only truly powerful when in possession of the materials upon which judgment is to be exercised. The study of the laws by which the Almighty governs the universe is therefore our bounden duty. Of these laws our great necessities and seats of education have, rather arbitrarily, selected only two spheres or groups (as I may call them) as essential parts of our national education:—the laws which regulate quantities and proportions, which form the subject of mathematics, and the laws regulating the expression of our thoughts through the medium of language, that is to say grammar, which finds its purest expression in the classical languages. These laws are most important branches of knowledge; their study trains and elevates the mind. But they are not the only ones; there are others which we cannot disregard—which we cannot do without. There are, for instance, the laws governing the human mind and its relation to the Divine Spirit—the subject of logic and metaphysics. There are those which govern our bodily nature and its connection with the soul—the subject of physiology and psychology. More which govern human society and the relations between man and man—the subjects of politics, jurisprudence, and political economy, and many others. Whilst of the laws just mentioned, some have been recognised as essentials of education in different institutions, and some will, by the course of time, more fully assert their right to recognition. The laws regulating matter and form are those which will constitute the chief object of your pursuits; and as the principle of subdivision of labour is the one most congenial to our age, I would advise you to keep this speciality, and to follow with undivided attention chiefly the sciences of mechanics, physics, and chemistry, and the fine arts in painting, sculpture, and architecture. You will thus have conferred an inestimable boon upon your country, and in a short time have the satisfaction of witnessing the beneficial results upon our national powers of production. Other parts of the country will, I doubt not, emulate your example, and I live in hopes that all these institutions will some day find a central point of union, and thus complete their national organisation. Thanking you once more for having allowed me to assist at the foundation of your institution, I wish it growth, vigour, and prosperity, with all my heart."

Lord Stanley of Alderley proposed the next toast, "The Health of the Emperor of the French and our brave Allies," which was received with loud and protracted cheering. After referring to the bravery displayed by the French and Sardinians in the present war, Lord Stanley said:—

"He would also bespeak the favour of his audience for the Emperor of the French in another character—as the Emperor of peace. His (Lord Stanley's) connection with an important public department had enabled him to appreciate the exertions which had been made by the Emperor in that character."

Lord Ashburton, in proposing "Success to the Birmingham and Midland Institute," after speaking of the system of education proposed, and the various advantages arising from such an Institution, said:—

"I might here close my remarks, and ask you to drink the toast, but I feel that I have another and a painful duty to fulfil—namely, to tell you what will be the penalty if the boon offered by this Institution be rejected, or if the other manufacturing towns neglect to follow your example and to present similar advantages to their inhabitants. Our hearts and our souls are absorbed by this Russian war. We feel, and we feel rightly, that the character of England and the honour of England are at stake, and no sacrifice must be spared. But there is another war which may be more calamitous in its results, which is being waged, not in some confined spots of an enemy's territory, 3,000 miles away, but a war waging here at home, involving, not the interests of the Turks, but the brand of our children and the destinies of our country. We seem to have forgotten that by adopting absolute freedom of trade we have cast down the granite of defiance to all nations, that we are fighting for superiority in our own markets, in those of the colonies, in every house throughout the habitable globe, where there exists money or credit wherewith to pay. We expect to hold our ground—have we up to this time held our ground? At the close of the war in 1815, we were superior in all the arts of peace—are we so now? Has not the torpedo crept up to us while we were slumbering upon our assumed superiority? Let us take nearer dates. You have among you jurors of 1851, and jurors of 1855. Do they tell you that we have kept our place? They do not tell me so. It would be strange indeed if we did keep our place, inferior as we are in all that scientific knowledge which cheapens and facilitates the application of labour, unless, indeed, knowledge be weakness and science a force."

STYLE OF THE BUILDING.

From about a dozen designs sent in for the intended building, the Council selected that of Mr. E. Barry, whose father has already contributed to the architectural ornamentation of the town, in his magnificent design for the school of King Edward VI. The building now about to be erected is in the modern Italian style—simple and extremely elegant, though almost devoid of ornamentation, if we except the slight window dressings, mouldings, and rustiwork, which, skillfully handled, render this style the most pleasing as well as convenient for almost every description of street architecture.

THE TROWEL USED BY, AND PRESENTED TO, PRINCE ALBERT.

The trowel used by the Prince was designed and manufactured by Messrs. Elkington and Matthews. It is of silver, oxydised and gilded. The handle, which is fluted, is terminated by a royal crown, the mouldings being enriched with the national emblems. The junction of the handle with the flat consists of two recumbent figures, representing Science and Industry, pointing to the inscription which occupies the middle. Near the point of the trowel the arms of Prince Albert are engraved; on the back is a fine perspective view of the new building, and the name of the architect. This trowel, contained in a case of satin-wood, was, after the ceremony, presented to his Royal Highness, who was graciously pleased to accept it.

THE WELLINGTON CLOCK TOWER.

Among the architectural improvements which have recently been made in the borough of Southwark—the formation of handsome squares, convenient streets, new ranges of railway buildings, and spacious causeways—the clock tower erected at the end of London bridge as a memorial of the conqueror of Waterloo, is one of the most conspicuous and interesting. As the tower is now complete, or nearly so, the clock having been at length fixed, we take advantage of the occasion to present our readers with the accompanying engraving.

This large clock was manufactured by Mr. George Bennet, of Blackheath, exhibited at the Crystal Palace, in Hyde Park, and magnificently presented to the Commissioners of Southwark, on condition that it should be erected on this spot. On the death of the Duke of Wellington, the inhabitants of Southwark, desirous of indicating their respect for the famous warrior, dedicated the clock tower to his memory; and thus it now stands, a monument alike to the military victories of the great Duke and to the peaceful triumphs of the Great Exhibition.

The architectural design, which is founded on one of our most elegant monumental crosses, is very generally, and very deservedly, admired—the sculptured details, the heads of the patron saints, and the rose, shamrock, thistle, and leek, which are frequently repeated, being exceedingly beautiful as regards execution. The total cost of the tower will, it is stated, be about £1,600, the greater part of which has been raised.

The clock itself is, we understand, a splendid piece of workmanship, and in all respects worthy of the position it occupies; in fact, "the right article in the right place." In many of its parts, it is quite original in design; and notwithstanding the heat and damp of the new buildings, it keeps exact time. The pendulum, which exceeds three hundredweight, is no less than five yards in length; and the magnificent machine, having four faces, which are always lighted during the night, is ever ready to intimate the hour to the multitudes frequenting the bustling thoroughfare.

THE ARCHITECTURAL MUSEUM, CANNON ROW, WESTMINSTER.

PALLISSY, the potter, making bon-fires of the domestic four-poster, and of Madame P's bonnet-boxes, for the glazing of her pippins; Silvio Pellico—we think it was Silvio Pellico, but, really, there have been so many gentlemen confined in Italian prisons for a lifetime or so, for similar heinous offences, that we get quite confused among them—nibbling his finger-nail into a pen, and mixing up his bottle of soot and water, to chronicle his prison experiences, on the fragments of an old shirt; Wilkie, painting in his lodging-house bed-room, with no ensel but an old chest of drawers; Douglas Jerrold's Shaksperian enthusiast, who at the same time studied Hamlet and seated his solitary pair of pantaloons with brown paper;—these, and innumerable other instances of martyrdom to the cause of art or knowledge under trying circumstances, are forcibly suggested to the imagination by a visit to the Architectural Museum in Cannon Row, Parliament Street, Westminster.

The institution, in its present material condition, however much it may eventually prove the cause of architecture in others, is not brilliantly architectural itself. The building is of a mixed order, founded upon the early English style with the Mediaeval barn-door modifications. The principal entrance is a simple portico of the severest Barn-Door. The approach is an imposing flight of steps of considerable altitude; but too abrupt in its ascent for personal comfort, and so disproportionately narrow as to forfeit all claims to architectural symmetry. We are not very learned in the technicalities of the Art, but we believe we are right in describing this particular specimen as of the order of Unmixed Step Ladder.

Our attention having been directed to the institution as one really deserving of encouragement, and one of our artists having prepared a drawing of the interior of the premises (see preceding page, requiring textual illustration, we obtained a ticket of admission for Monday evening, and went in search of the building at the appointed hour. It was mysteriously situated. We could never have found it unaided (it is true we are most deficient in the organ of locality), and when an obliging policeman volunteered his services as guide, he led us in so suspicious a direction that we began to fear that his purpose was to smuggle us into Scotland Yard, on some unknown charge, which led to a rapid mental survey of our conduct for the past week or two. However, he performed his duty faithfully, and accepted three-pence with the alacrity of his order. We ascended the staircase, already described, and were courteously received by a gray-headed official, who did not in the least want to look at our ticket, being, apparently, interested in a lecture, in the course of delivery, by a gentleman who turned out to be Sir Walter C. James, Baronet. As we could not hear a word of Sir Walter's eloquence—we being at the back of a couple of hundred persons—and the Honourable Baronet apparently unaccustomed to public speaking, we thought we would look about us.

We were in a long, low, narrow room, looking more like a stonemason's workshop than the premises of a flourishing art institution (as the Architectural Museum turns out to be). Something more than good-breeding suggested the removal of our hat, as we were rather tall, and our head very nearly touched the lower beams of two or three unceiled gables of the building intersecting the apartment, and in whose recesses the tones of Sir Walter James's voice probably lost themselves. The walls were literally covered, and every available space crowded, with architectural specimens—mouldings, spandrels, buttresses, bosses, crockets, dogs' teeth, dogs' heads, capitals, corbels, shields of arms, mullions of windows, effigies of kings, queens, saints, sinners, bishops, lords, commons, and what not,—reminding us of Bishop Blomfield's remark (in that best abused book of our last number, "Men and Women")—

"I doubt if they're half baked, these chalk rosettes,
Gipsies and stucco windings everywhere.
It's just like breathing in a lime-kiln. Eh?"

And it certainly was. For the queer rooms were brilliantly lighted with gas, and well curtained in every possible direction, so as to make the best of their unwholesome accommodation; and, as we have stated, there were some two hundred people present. An open space to our right showed another large apartment of the same description, more crowded with specimens, if possible, than this neighbour. Behind the lecturer (facing us) was another opening, showing more space and more specimens. The first feeling of the ridiculous, at the oddity of the premises, being overcome, it seemed possible that the Architectural Museum Association was a highly sensible young body, caring less about outward appearances than practical results, preferring to secure to itself the means of healthy existence previous to indulging in the luxury of a fine house. A glance at the character of the audience corroborated the opinion. A more intelligent, earnest collection of heads we have rarely witnessed. They were evidently people who had come to learn, and make use of their learning. Whatever Sir Walter James had to say to them worth listening to, they were there to receive and apply. The weakness of the lecturer's voice, and the almost hopeless acoustic arrangements of the building, were only difficulties for them to surmount. In the improbable event of our ever delivering a lecture, we would wish for no more attentive or intelligent audience.

In a short conversation we had with the manager of the building (curator, as he is rather affectingly styled), the objects and prospects of the institution were laid before us. It is an undertaking of recent date, having been only started in March, 1852. In the following March, things were in a sufficiently forward state to warrant the opening of the present build-

ing (styled "suitable, though rough," in the prospectus; it is certainly rough enough). The objects of the speculation are pretty well explained by its name. No such thing as an Architectural Museum, or anything approaching to it, previously existed in this country. The want of such a Museum need hardly be dwelt on. We believe the present experiment, properly (and, we may add, deservedly) supported, will answer the desired purpose. It is planned on the most extended scale of liberality towards the workman, for whose encouragement and improvement it is mainly designed, by bringing within his reach (at a nominal charge) access for, and objects of study, from which he would otherwise be debarred. The collection already comprises upwards of 6,000 specimens, many of extreme rarity, and all of practical utility to the workman and student. The number is being added to with a rapidity that will soon compel the directors, even though in spite of themselves, to remove their collection to more commodious quarters.

The undertaking has already met with most gratifying encouragement. The yearly subscriptions (at an average of a guinea per annum) amount to upwards of £350. Donations have been numerous, and most of the great architectural names of this country have evinced, by their countenance and aid, their desire to elevate the Architectural Museum to a national institution. At the head of these stands, prominently, Mr. Ruskin, who, in addition to numerous pecuniary donations, has presented the Museum with all the casts collected by him for the illustration of the "Stones of Venice," a valuable collection in itself. In addition to these magnificent gifts, our great artist-poet-critic volunteered gratuitously different courses of lectures, and moreover has attended (and continues to attend) personally at the Museum, to direct the students in the study and art of illumination. An arrangement has also been made with Marlborough House to enable the students of the latter to copy from the Museum specimens. For this the Museum receives an annual fee of £100, which is all the more encouraging from its having been unsolicited. Different classes of stone-carving, and other branches of the art, have been already formed, and the attendance and progress have been most satisfactory.

It appears the Museum has been labouring under considerable odium in some quarters, from a misunderstanding as to its purpose, originating with one of the daily papers. The nucleus of the collection consisting, almost exclusively, of mediæval Gothic specimens—and its principal projectors being gentlemen believing in that school (as applied to this country) beyond any other—a re-active religious element was assumed to be mixed up with the undertaking. The horrible words "Puseyite" and "Roman" were darkly whispered in connection with Cannon Row. We are assured (and candidly believe) that nothing could be more unfounded. The collection, as yet, certainly contains little else than mediæval specimens. For this, there are two reasons. Firstly, they were the easiest to get at; secondly, it was considered advisable, as a preliminary step to the possible formation of an English school of architecture, to know something about the ancient buildings of our own country that have been so strangely neglected, an opinion in which we fully coincide. Other things will follow in time. It is as preposterous to accuse the present society of a tendency to Romanism, because they begin with our old cathedrals, as it would be to charge a picture collector with Judaism because his first purchase happened to be a Jew's head by Rembrandt.

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

A SKIPPER AMONG SHARPEERS.—John Maynard, a notorious "mingsman," was brought up at the Thames Police-court, on Saturday last, charged with stealing £32 from Charles King, of East Donaldson, in Essex, master of the ship *Agatha*, who gave his evidence in a broad Essex dialect, and was frequently interrupted by laughter in the court.

It appeared that the prisoner, who has been repeatedly in custody on charges of plundering countrymen, captains of ships, and others, and has been twice convicted, is connected with a notorious gang of thieves, called mingsmen, and they have plundered a great many persons in a very ingenious manner. Into the hands of this fraternity the simple Captain had the misfortune to fall on the 15th ult. He first entered into conversation, at Rotherhithe, with the prisoner, who represented himself to be a merchant from Great Yarmouth, and said he was going into the Commercial Dock to buy timber. The Captain had to go to the same place to unmoor his ship, and when he had finished his business there, he met the prisoner at the dock gate, and he then said it was too late to buy timber, and proposed an adjournment to a public-house, where some ale was called for and drunk. They were joined by a young countryman, whom the Captain deemed a "greenhorn," and by a man about 35 years of age, who described himself as a master lighterman. They all fell into conversation, and the "greenhorn" said his father was a railway contractor, who was killed by a train going over him, that his mother was so fond of him that she died of a broken heart, and that he was then sent to his uncle, who put him into a unwholesome, and never taught him to read or write. The "greenhorn" went on to say that, when he came of age, a person in Exeter took him in hand, and sent him up to a lawyer, near St. Paul's Church, who recovered £60,000 and sent him home, and that he had a few score pounds left, which he intended to distribute among the poor of various parishes. The prisoner said he should like to distribute among the poor of his parish. The "greenhorn" said he should have it. Captain King said, "Are you not limited to the parishes you are to distribute it to?" The "greenhorn" said, "No; as long as you show me a bill, that is all I want," and said he would give £20 to the poor of the Captain's parish. The "greenhorn" said he should like to see the Thames Tunnel; all the party set out, and the Captain was quite delighted with the fine talk of his companions, except the "greenhorn," who appeared a very soft one; but I said the Captain, "was softer." (Loud laughter.) From the Tunnel, the party adjourned to the Freemasons' Arms. More drink was called for; and the "greenhorn" having risen from his seat, the prisoner said "Are you going to leave; where's the money you promised to distribute among the poor of our parishes?" The "greenhorn" took a large pocket book from his pocket, which apparently contained notes and gold to a large amount, and putting it on the table, said, "I'll leave my possessions behind until I return." He went out, and returned in a few minutes, when the prisoner jumped up from his seat. The "greenhorn" said "Are you going?" to which the prisoner replied, "I am coming back, and I'll leave this on the table;" and took from his pocket a red bag, which also appeared to contain Bank of England notes and gold. The prisoner then said to Captain King, "I want to speak to you; but before you leave the room, you had better leave your money on the table." Captain King took from his pocket a purse, containing 32 sovereigns, and put it on the table. The prisoner caught hold of the Captain's arm, drew him out of the room, and asked him who was to get the security stamps for the money which the countryman was to give them for distribution among the poor of their parishes. The prosecutor said, "You had better go," and then returned to the room where he had left the countryman and the lighterman. But, alas! they were gone, and his money was gone too. He rushed out of the house, and saw the prisoner with his coat off, and the lighterman running as hard as they could. He soon lost sight of them, and confessed that he was "the greenhorn," and not the countryman from Exeter. He saw the prisoner again last week in the Coal Market, and at once recognised him, and said, "I want you." The prisoner ran away, but after running up and down St. Mary-at-Hill, and dodging the prosecutor about the horses and carts, he was secured, and given into the custody of a City policeman, who said the fellow was a notorious mingsman, and associated with a gang who frequented the Corn Exchange, Coal Market, and Docks.

Another City policeman said the prisoner dropped a bag on his way to the station-house. It contained fifteen brass medals resembling sovereigns, a £50 note of the Bank of Engraving, and two of £5 each of the Bank of Economy. At a distance they would appear like genuine Bank of England notes.

The Magistrate said those sort of medals and notes were part of the stock in trade of every sharper, and committed the prisoner for trial.

DESPERATE CONDUCT OF A DRUNKEN DAME.—A strong, powerfully-built woman, named Sullivan, was brought before the Marylebone Police Court, on Tuesday, charged with assaulting policemen Campion and Milton. It appeared that about six o'clock on Monday evening, as police constable Campion was on duty in Cato Street, he was called to by the prisoner's husband, whose face was covered with blood, who requested him to take his wife into custody. He went to a house in a locality called Cato Bay, where the prisoner resided, and while ascending the stair, heard her snarling the crockery, turning over the tables, and upon entering the room he found the debris of cups, saucers, plates, &c., scattered over the floor of the room, and the prisoner was in the midst of them. She was under the influence of liquor, and appeared like a mad woman. As it was useless to think of taking her into custody by himself, he procured assistance, and she was with some difficulty secured and conveyed to the station-house. There, while she was in the dock, and the charge was being taken, she gave Campion a violent blow on his head, which nearly knocked him down, and as policeman Milton was passing, she struck him upon his head with her clenched fist, and sent his hat to the further extremity of the station.

Mrs. Sullivan was, for each assault on the officers, sent for two months to the House of Correction.

* Art students are admitted at 10s., and art workmen at 5s. per annum. Nothing riotous here.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

LOOKING to the prospect held out in some quarters that there is every probability of peace with Russia, numerous heavy purchases of consols have been made this week for money, and the market for nearly all national securities has been active, at advanced quotations. The arrival of about £1,300,000 in gold from Australia has given considerable firmness to prices, and the comparative abundance of money, though the rates of discount have continued high, has given more confidence to the "bulls." We may observe, however, that there is still a demand for gold on continental account, and that silver continues to be imported from Belgium for India and China, to which countries large amounts will, no doubt, be shipped for some period, notwithstanding the shorts made to check the outflow. The 3 per cent. consols, for money, have marked 88½ to 89½, and for the account 88½ to 89½. The reduced three have been 87½ to 88½, and the new 3 per cent. 88½ to 89½. Bank stock, 208 to 209 long annuities, 1860, 33; ditto, 1855, 161. India bonds, 35, and Exchequer bills, 55 to 56 discount. Exchequer bonds, both series, 98.

We have to report a steady business doing in most foreign bonds, the prices of which are well supported. Brazilian 5 per cent. small, have realised 99½; Ecuador bonds, 51; Mexican 3 per cent. 19½; Russian 5 per cent. 96; Spanish 3 per cent. 39; ditto new deferred, 20½; ditto passive, 64; Turkish 6 per cent. 80½; ditto 4 per cent. new scrip, 34 discount; Dutch 2½ per cent. 64; and Dutch 4 per cent. 84.

The railway "calls" for December are heavy, viz., £2,397,400 against £2,670,940 in the December of 1854, and £1,196 in the same month in 1853. The total "calls" for 1855 are thus raised to £15,558,987, against £13,171,643 in 1854, and £11,288,273 in 1853. The dealings in these securities continue limited, yet prices are tolerably firm. Bristol and Exeter have marked 81½; Caledonian, 55½; Eastern Counties, 94; Great Northern, 87½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 103; Great Western, 50; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 75½; London and Blackwall, 64; London and Brighton, 94½; London and North Western, 94½; London and South Western, 55½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 22; Midland, 63½; Norfolk, 44½; North Eastern, 67½; South Eastern, 57½; South Wales, 31½; Vale of Neath, 19½; Eastern of France, 35 ex int.; East India, 20½; ditto Extension, 15½; Great Western of Canada, 22½.

In Mining Shares, very little has been done. Cobra Copper have realised 67½; Tin Croft, 33; United Mexican, 4.

Miscellaneous securities have been in very moderate request. Australian Royal Mail, 5; Canada Company's Bonds, 133½; do. Government Six per Cent., 108; English and Australian Copper Smelting Company, 14; Electric Telegraph, 17½; East and West India Docks, 118½; General Steam Shipping Company, 16; London Docks, 98½; Oriental Gas, 1; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 68; Southampton Dock, 36.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The fresh arrivals of English wheat up to our market, this week, have been on a very moderate scale. The demand, however, for all kinds has been in a most depressed state, and prices have given way from 3s. to 1s. per quarter. In foreign wheat—the show of which has been limited—no little business has been done, that the quotations have ruled almost nominal. Floating cargoes, however, have realised very full prices. The barley trade has ruled heavy, and prices have given way 1s. to 2s. per quarter. Malt, however, has been unaltered. Good sound oats have sold on former terms, but inferior kinds have had a downward tendency. Both beans and peas have changed hands slowly, at from 1s. to 2s. per quarter less money. The flour trade has been heavy, and country marks have fallen 2s. to 280lbs.

ENGLISH CURRENCY.—Essex and Kent White Wheat, 47s. to 53s.; ditto, Red, 62s. to 69s.; Malting Barley, 40s. to 46s. Potatoes, ditto, 40s. to 42s.; Graining ditto, 37s. to 40s.; Malt, 60s. to 84s.; Rye, 50s. to 52s.; Feed Oats, 27s. to 29s.; Potato ditto, 28s. to 33s.; Tick Beans, 41s. to 47s.; Pigeon, 46s. to 55s.; White Peas, 50s. to 55s.; Maple, 42s. to 46s.; Gray, 42s. to 46s. per quarter; Town-made Flour, 75s. to 77s.; Town Households, 65s. to 67s.; Country, 60s. to 63s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, 58s. to 59s. per 280lbs.

CATTLE.—There has been rather an active demand for beasts—the supplies of which have fallen off—and the quotations have advanced 2d. per 8lbs. The show of sheep has been small, and all breeds have sold briskly, at 2d. per 8lbs. more money. In calves, very little has been doing, on lower terms, but pigs have continued tolerably firm. Beef, from 5s. 8d. to 5s. 2d.; mutton, 3s. 6d. to 5s. 2d.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; pork, 3s. 10d. to 5s. per 8lbs., to sink the offal.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.—These markets continue to be well supplied with each kind of meat, in which about an average business is doing, as follows:—L., from 3s. 4d. to 4s. 8d.; mutton, 2s. 4d. to 4s. 8d.; veal, 3s. 4d. to 5s. 2d.; pork, 3s. 10d. to 5s. 2d. per 8lbs., by the carcass.

TRA.—Privately, as well as at public sale, the demand for most kinds has been rather inactive, yet we have no change to notice in the quotations. Congon, 9d. to 2s. 7d.; Ning Yong and Oolong, 10d. to 1s. 9d.; Souchong, 9d. to 2s. 8d.; Flowery Pekoe, 1s. 5d. to 3s. 6d.; Caper, 1s. to 1s. 3d.; Scented Caper, 1s. to 1s. 8d.; Orange Pekoe, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 4d.; Scented Orange Pekoe, 1s. 9d. to 2s. 9d.; Twankay, 8d. to 1s. 2d.; Hyson Skin, 7d. to 1s.; Hyson, 1s. 5d. to 3s. 9d.; Young Hyson, 9d. to 3s.; Imperial, 1s. to 2s. 9d.; Gunpowder, 1s. to 3s. 6d.; Assam, 1s. to 4s. 4d. per lb.

SUGARS.—Really fine samples of raw sugar have changed hands slowly, at about previous quotations; but low and damp qualities have been drooping. Dealers generally operate with extreme caution. The refined market is heavy, and the quotations are almost nominal.

MOLASSES.—There is very little business doing in this article. Importers, however, are not sellers on lower terms. Cuba and Porto Rico, 27s. 6d. to 29s. 6d.; and low to fine West India, 28s. to 29s. per cwt.

COFFEY.—Transactions in good old Native Ceylon have been effected at 54s. 6d. to 55s. per cwt. Plantation and foreign qualities are steady, but not dearer. The stock of coffee is now 355 casks of West India, 5,203 bales of Mocha, and 43,600 bags of Ceylon, against 46,800 bags in 1854.

COCOA.—This article is again rather dearer, owing to the small supply in the market. Gray Trinidad has realised 26s. to 59s.; red, 60s. to 64s.; Granada, 55s. to 59s.; and Foreign, 48s. 6d. to 51s. per cwt.

RICE.—Fine white Bengal has sold as high as 18s. 6d. per cwt. For arrival, there is a good business doing in other kinds, at full quotations.

FRUIT.—Currants have a slow sale at 85s. to 116s. per cwt. per cwt. for raw fruit. New Valencia Raisins have sold at 44s. to 48s.; Valencia, 75s. to 95s.; New Turkey Figs, 90s. to 90s.; New Sultan, 70s.; and Muscatels, 80s. to 130s. per cwt.

PROVISIONS.—Fresh Butter is in request, and rather dearer. Other kinds support former terms. In bacon very little is doing, and prices have a downward tendency. The Government contract for pork has been taken at 49, and for beef, 47 10s. per tierce.

WOOL.—Since the close of the public sales, our market has ruled heavy, but we have no decline to notice in the quotations.

COTTON.—The few transactions reported in this article have been on former terms. Surat, 34d. to 44d.; Bengal, 34d. to 38d.; and Madras, 34d. to 44d. per lb.

HEMP AND FLAX.—All kinds are dull in sale, and, in some instances, the quotations have ruled in favour of buyers.

METALS.—Scotch pig iron has sold steadily, at 77s. 6d. In the value of manufactured iron, we have no alteration to notice. Spelter has moved off slowly, at 23s. 10s. to 23s. 12s. 6d. per ton on the spot. Copper and Lead command previous rates. Tin and tin-plates are tolerably active.

SPIRITS.—We have had a steady demand for rum, at full quotations. Proof Leeward, 3s. 1d. to 3s. 3d.; East India, 2s. 10d. to 3s.; and foreign, proof to 10 percent over, 2s. 10d. to 3s. 3d. per gallon. Brandy is dull in sale. Sales of Cognac, best brands of 1851, 10s. 7d. to 10s. 9d.; 1850 ditto, 10s. 8d. to 10s. 10d.; older, 11s. to 11s. 6d. Malt spirit, 11s. 2d. per gallon. Geneva, 3s. to 4s.

INDIGO.—There is a steady demand for East India qualities, at from 3d. to 4d. per lb. above the last sale's rates.

HOPS.—Very fine hops are selling on former terms; but inferior kinds rule in favour of buyers. Mid and East Kent pockets, 80s. to 120s.; Wendl of Kents, 70s. to 95s.; Sussex, 65s. to 90s. per cwt.

POTATOES.—Full average supplies continue to arrive, and a good business is doing, at from 70s. to 115s. per ton.

COALS.—Tandfield Moor, 17s. 6d.; Wylam, 19s.; Gosforth, 20s.; Bell, 20s. 6d.; Haswell, 22s. 6d.; Lambton, 22s.; Stewart's, 22s. 6d.; Cassop, 21s. 6d.; Hough Hall, 20s. 6d.; Kellie, 22s.; Tees, 22s. 6d.; Aycliffe, 22s.; Evenwood, 18s. 6d. per ton.

OILS.—Our market generally is very inactive, and prices are rather drooping. Linseed oil, 43s. 3d. per cwt. on the spot. Turpentine is dull, at 37s. to 39s. per cwt. for spirits.

TALLOW.—Great heaviness prevails in the demand, and the quotations are giving way. F.Y.C. on the spot, 69s. to 69s. 5d.; and for March, 69s. per cwt. Town tallow, 69s. nett cash. The stock is now 19,854 casks, against 33,271 ditto in 1854, and 33,928 in 1853.

LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—CYPRIAN JAMES COTTELL, Abingdon, Berks, draper.

BANKRUPT.—FREDK. FRANCIS FOX, Finch Lane, City, tailor—HENRY CORNEY, Brighton, binder—ROBERT GARDEN, Millwall, Poplar, cement manufacturer—THOMAS WILLIAMS, Aberdare, brewer—OWEN WILLIAMS, Manchester, corn dealer—JOSEPH STREED, Leeds, grocer—GEORGE HANNAFORD, Saint Mary's Church, Devon, baker—JONAS SMITH, Low Moor, York, worsted spinner and manufacturer—JOHN PHILIPS, Wood Street, Clerkenwell, wholesale rag and metal merchant—SAMUEL SMART, Lenton, Nottingham, builder—JOHN DAVIS, Worcester, tailor—RICHARD BRIANT, Murray Street, New North Road, carpenter—RICHARD BUTLER, Pickering Terrace, Bayswater, ironmonger—DANIEL DAVIS, Newington Causeway, glass merchant.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27.

BANKRUPT.—FRANCIS PUTLEY, Newington Causeway, watchmaker—JOHN BAPTIST, Hunslet, Yorkshire, woollen manufacturer—JOHN VALENCE BELLAMY, Sheffield, wine merchant—FRANCIS SCAIFE, Sheffield, cutlery manufacturer—REBECCA CRONE, Conduit Street, Regent Street, milliner—HENRY PALMER, Portsmouth, linendraper—ROBERT WADDAMS STREET, Weston-super-Mare, grocer—BENJAMIN SCOTT, Earlsheston, near Dewsbury, Yorkshire, blanket manufacturer—ROBERT BURNS, Liverpool, millwright and engineer—FREDERICK EVERY, Exeter, scrivener—JOHN DYER, Devonport, builder—EDWIN TRAVIS, Lutzey Brook Mills, near Oldham, cotton spinner.

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